Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Risquet 'Moderately Optimistic' on Africa Talks

FL0605184488 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, PCC Politburo and Central Committee member, has said in the British capital that the Angolan-Cuban delegation went to London for a conference on southern Africa. He said that the recently held conference is aimed at seeking a negotiated and just solution to ensure Namibia's independence according to UN agreements.

In reply to questions by more than 50 journalists who attended a news conference at the Cuban Embassy in London, Risquet said that another objective of the Angolan-Cuban delegation is to demand an end to the aggressions against Angola and to the meddling in the internal affairs of that African country. Risquet added that Cuba defends [words indistinct] Angolan [word indistinct] and its security. Compliance with these conditions will determine the gradual and complete withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops.

Regarding the London conference, he said he is moderately optimistic. He did warn, however, that one of the agreements of that meeting was to maintain silence about what had been discussed. [Words indistinct] Cuba will not be the one to break this agreement. The Cuban official indicated that [words indistinct] talks may be successful. He emphasized that there exists political willingness on the part of Cuba and Angola to attain a negotiated, just, and honorable solution. If the other parties have the same political willingness, there will be an agreement. Whether or not there will be one, only time will tell, he added.

Further Reports on PDRY Party Leader's Visit

Wreath Lain at Monument

FL0605191488 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], this morning placed a flower wreath at the foot of the monument to our national hero Jose Marti in Revolution Square.

Osmani Cienfuegos Gorriaran, PCC Politburo and Central Committee member, and other government and party leaders accompanied the delegation from the PDRY.

Cienfuegos Speaks on Award

FL0605181288 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 0037 GMT 6 May 88

[Speech by PCC Politburo member Osmani Cienfuegos during a ceremony at Havana's Palace of the Revolution awarding the Playa Giron Order to 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party—live]

[Text] Dear Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP, dear Comrade Fidel Castro, dear comrades of the Yemeni delegation, comrades:

The Council of State, expressing the feelings of our party, government, and the Cuban peoples, has decided to award dear Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid the Playa Giron Order as recognition he earned because of the dedication of his life to the revolutionary cause.

You were part of the Arab national movement in 1960, a movement whose policy included the wave of independence that, in the Middle East, accelerated the end of colonialism.

By then our revolution was organizing its defense against the imminent attack of U.S. imperialism. At the same time, it was beginning profound transformations as a result of the driving force of the assault on the Moncada Barracks led by Fidel Castro, and of the plea: "History will absolve me." This set in motion the historic effort that culminated in our liberating struggles and opened to the Cuban people the road to victories on which we travel today. We later learned that our victorious revolution had awakened great sympathy and respect among the Yemeni revolutionary youths of whom you were a part.

You were present when the national liberation front was organized to confront colonialism. The clandestine struggle and the (Radfan) mountains became familiar with your presence in the fight against the foreign occupation.

During the construction of the new state that resulted from independence— which suffered the burden of illiteracy, cultural backwardness, poor health conditions, and economic and social underdevelopment from the ill-fated (?schools) of colonialism itself—you undertook important responsibilities. Throughout these many years your activities in the leadership of the YSP and the government have been an expression of the unyielding patriotic and anti-imperialist positions of your people.

This is why we are very proud, dear Comrade Al-Bid, that you are with us. Upon decorating you, we recall with respect and affection Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, who died tragically and who contributed to the forging of the vanguard organization of the Yemeni people. He was also the builder of the historic and indestructable ties of friendship that unite our revolutions based on common ideological principles.

The Yemeni revolution has been and is the defender of the most noble and legitimate causes of its people. It advances with firm steps toward socialism. Without hesitation, it has practiced solidarity with the peoples that struggle for their liberty, embodied today, more than ever, in the heroic Palestinian people who confront barbaric Zionist acts.

The Playa Giron Order expresses our country's recognition of the men who, with their contribution to the revolutionary cause, are genuine representatives of the aspirations of their peoples. It carries that name in honor

of those people who, at the cost of their own lives and under the banners of socialism, inflicted the first great military defeat on U.S. imperialism in our continent.

As our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro confers this medal upon you, we pay tribute to your heroic and unselfish people, the combatants who fell heroically. We also pay tribute to the Yemeni revolution and the friendship and solidarity—which we will never surrender—of the Cuban people and their revolution.

Thank you. [applause]

Al-Bid Speaks at Ceremony

FL0605204588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 0044 GMT 6 May 88

[Speech by 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, during a ceremony at Havana's Palace of the Revolution to award him Cuba's Playa Giron Order; in Arabic with consecutive Spanish translation— live]

[Text] Dear Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, dear Comrades: From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for this decoration in my name and that of the delegation accompanying me. I am overcome with great joy on receiving the honor that you render me with this decoration, the Order of Playa Giron, from the Council of State. It signifies the special recognition of the Republic of Cuba and its ruling party, the PCC, for the YSP and the revolutionary experience of the PDRY.

We know that this order has great significance and indicates the high level reached in the relations of camaraderie and combativeness between our two parties, our two peoples, and our two revolutions. These relations are characterized by principles and firmness and give a great example of the ties and constructive cooperation that can be established between two peoples and two revolutions.

From the moral as well as from the political point of view, no one can forget all the efforts made by the Cubans in Yemen. Our people have received the support of the Cubans in livestock development projects and Cuban experts have also played a role in the training and preparation of the people's militia so that it can contribute to the defense of our national sovereignty. The training received by the Yemeni cadres in the Cuban institutes and universities cannot be forgotten, nor the teaching missions of the Cuban professors who have worked at Aden University or the education our students receive in the Radfan School on the Isle of Youth and other demonstrations of support and cooperation between our two friendly countries.

We trust in the development and future expansion of these relations on the basis of the historical bonds that have united our parties and peoples. In the PDRY, we have the right and, what is more, the duty to be proud because our comradely [as heard] revolution has received your support inasmuch as Cuba has been the loyal friend of our revolution. It has strongly supported us in various situations that our country has gone through, especially in those difficult moments when an increasing number of plots have been concocted against our process with the purpose of annihilating it and making it deviate from its socialist orientation.

The comrades sent by the Cuban revolution were there by our side. All of Cuba shared with us the sufferings of the 13 January conspiracy, and the heart of the Cuban people was pained by the casualties and calamities caused by this abortive but bloody conspiracy, which caused the physical disappearance of a group of historical leaders of the Yemeni revolution who were great friends of Cuba, exemplary patriotic combatants, and internationalists.

We feel, with admiration, that Cuba now honors these heroes with the medal of the Playa Giron Order. Dear comrade, our admiration for the Cuban experience and its influence is unlimited. This was the first country that flew the flag of socialism in the Western hemisphere and met the historical challenge of socialist construction, confronting the external dangers that threaten the revolution from very near.

With a global vision and a firm revolutionary spirit that makes all the world's revolutionaries proud, the Cuban revolution was able to raise the combative readiness, heroism, and revolutionary courage of the people to a very high level. You achieved a great victory when you defeated the conspiracy and the military aggression in Playa Giron prepared by the imperialists of the United States, the reactionaries, and the lackey dictatorships in Latin America. This great victory was proof of the force of the revolution, which is built on and supported by the organized and armed masses.

The revolution adopts a progressive line committed to the interests of the humble masses and it firmly marches toward socialism with noble, human, and moral values. The aggression perpetrated against Cuba in Playa Giron failed. The aggressors became demoralized while Cuba won the love, admiration, and support of the whole world. From that moment on, and even before, Cuba has been a great inspiration for all the movements of national liberation which have fought and fight against colonialism and economic dependency and for freedom, democracy, and social progress.

Today, not only does it extend its hand to cooperate materially and morally with the peoples who have elected the independent road of development, but its example is a correct option for the successful march toward socialism.

We, the Arab countries, have received valuable services from Cuba, a magnificent model in the heroic struggle, in the invincible resistance to imperialism and its agents

and watchdogs. We have learned from the Cuban revolutionaries many lessons of revolution and resistance to achieve victory. That expands the framework of the relations between our two peoples.

The Yemeni people feel deep affection and admiration for you, Comrade Fidel Castro, as well as a warm feeling of friendship for the friendly Cuban people. On behalf of my people and my Republic, allow me, on this occasion, to express our wishes for success, prosperity, and progress in the construction of socialism. Thank you very much. [applause]

Official Talks Begin

FL0705024088 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC, and 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP, began official talks at the Central Committee today. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro expressed the deep regard of our people for the Yemeni revolution and people and the satisfaction over his visit which symbolizes the historic ties that have united the two nations and parties.

For his part, Al-Bid expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome he received upon his arrival and the manifestations of friendship, solidarity, and affection he has seen since his arrival in our country.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali and his counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca, began talks. They agreed to support the Panamanian people and the peace efforts of the Sandinist government.

Aden on Castro-Al-Bid Talks

EA0705150688 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 May 88

[Excerpts] Official and friendly Cuban-Yemeni talks, under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, concluded yesterday afternoon in the PCC Central Committee building in Havana.

At the beginning of the talks, Comrade Castro welcomed the brother secretary general and the delegation accompanying him.

For his part, Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid expressed his thanks and those of the delegation accompanying him for the friendly reception. He praised the relations existing between the YSP and the PCC and between the two friendly peoples and countries, confirming the joint desire to develop and consolidate those relations.

The brother secretary general reviewed the political situation in the Yemeni arena, stressing the importance of the meeting that took place in Sana between the leaderships of the two parts and the agreement signed to set up a joint Yemeni project for petroleum exploitation. He also stressed the importance attached by the party and state in the southern part to the preservation of security and stability. He explained the YSP's stand and its view on solving the national problem of the Yemeni people through the achievement of Yemeni unity by peaceful and democratic means. [passage omitted]

Concerning the situation in the Arab Peninsula, the Gulf and the Red Sea, the brother secretary general stressed the importance of finding a settlement to the dispute between Iran and Iraq and ending the war between them in accordance with Security Council Resolution No 598. He also stressed the importance of withdrawing military forces and war fleets belonging to the NATO alliance states from the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea. [passage omitted]

He expressed our country's optimism that the present international situation has indications of a detente in international relations, allowing for those elements still pursuing negative developments, particularly the U.S. Administration's so-called Star Wars project and its maintenance of regional tensions in more than one area of the world.

The brother secretary general renewed our country's absolute support for the revolutionary government in Nicaragua. He condemned the aggressive and provocative U.S. acts against the heroic people of Nicaragua. [passage omitted]

For his part, Comrade Fidel Castro reviewed the current political situation in Cuba. He expressed his gratification concerning Cuban-Yemeni relations, stressing Cuba's keenness to strengthen and develop those relations. He also reiterated the PCC and Cuban people's support for the peaceful policy being pursued by Democratic Yemen. He condemned all the despicable attempts by the reactionary and imperialist forces to impair the freedom and independnece of our country and destabilize it.

He also renewed Cuba's support for the Palestinian cause and the call for the holding of an international conference for peace in the Middle East, stressing the need for a broad base in the Arab region and the solution of regional disputes by peaceful means.

He also condemned the U.S. policy of economic pressure and robbing developing countries, particularly Latin American countries. He stressed the need for a new world economic order in which relaitons between peoples will be equal.

He also expressed the PCC's support for the peaceful policy being pursued by the Soviet Union and its new thinking which has established new international relations and shown important indications of reinforcing international detente and consolidating world peace. [passage omitted]

Tours Research Center, Hospital

FL0705012588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP, has visited the Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center. He was accompanied by Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the PCC Politburo.

The guest was welcomed by Manuel Limonta, director of the center, and a group of outstanding specialists. Standing in front of the center's floor plan, al-Bid and those accompanying him received an extensive briefing on the development of genetic engineering and biotechnology in our country, especially regarding the production and use of interferon. The visitors later toured various areas, including laboratories, where they were able to chat with scientists and technicians who work there.

This afternoon, the high-level YSP delegation visited the Hermanos Ameijeiras Clinical Surgical Teaching Hospital in Havana. Al-Bid and the mission accompanying him were received by Dr Raul Gomez Cabrera, director of the hospital. The delegation received a detailed explanation of the hospital's facilities and the services it provides. The distinguished visitor expressed interest concerning the development of transplant techniques in Cuba and the length of survival of patients who undergo surgery. They visited the geriatrics ward and saw the lithontriptic equipment used to destroy kidney stones. They also went to the basement where the magnetic resonance equipment is located. This equipment is used for thorough studies of the human body.

Economic Cooperation Minister on USSR Relations

FL0705122888 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1136 GMT 7 May 88

[By Isabel Montero]

[Text] Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, has said that Cuban-Soviet relations respond to the goals of a new international economic order based on equal trade.

In statements made to Radio Reloj on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the renewal of relations between Cuba and the USSR, which will be marked tomorrow, Melendez stressed that our country has enjoyed this privilege practically since the triumph of the revolution.

In the almost 3 decades of relations, he said, the USSR has always considered our financial and development limitations. They have demonstrated this by their sustained contribution to the advancement of Cuba's economy, science, and technology, Melendez added. Cuba at the same time has benefited by the exchange of advanced technology with a highly industrialized country, such as the USSR, said the minister president. Cuba and the USSR are undertaking new economic goals in technology, stressed Melendez.

More than 400 industrial projects have been constructed in our country with the assistance of the Soviet Union, he said, and this cooperation will become more intense and effective.

Among the most important economic projects currently under construction with Soviet assistance that Melendez mentioned are the electrical-nuclear center in Cienfuegos Province and the Ernesto Che Guevara nickel plant in Holguin.

Cuba has also clearly benefited from the training of thousands of technicians in different specialties, said Melendez.

Rodriguez Ends Brazil Visit, En Route to Mexico

FL0605235288 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has ended his 2-week visit to Brazil. He traveled from Sao Paulo to Mexico City, with a stopover in the Peruvian capital.

In Sao Paulo, where he was a guest of Governor Orestes Quercia, the high-level Cuban leader met with political leaders, intellectuals, and businessmen.

ANPP Delegation Concludes Talks in Bonn

FL0705004088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] A delegation from Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], headed by Acting President Severo Aguirre del Cristo, ended talks with its FRG counterpart in Bonn today.

Adviser to Guatemalan President Arrives

FL0505141188 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Dr Carlos Soto, adviser to Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, has arrived in Havana.

Soto said: I have come to Cuba to find out about its national health system, and I am convinced of its effectiveness. The visitor, who is a cardiology specialist, has

just given up his post as public health minister in his country to work as an advisor to President Cerezo and to simultaneously coordinate the national Guatemalan health council.

Mozambican Culture Minister Honwana Arrives

FL0705120388 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Mozambican Culture Minister Bernado Honwana has arrived in Cuba on an official visit. Honwana was received by Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret on behalf of Armando Hart.

New Sugar Center Inaugurated in Matanzas

FL0705135688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] The Mario Munoz sugar center was officially inaugurated during a ceremony attended by Julian Rizo, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee.

The Mario Munoz is the eighth center built by the revolution and the first of a new type in the territory. The ceremony was held at the new mill and it recognized its successful sugar production.

On behalf of its more than 33,000 members, the Matanzas Sugar Workers Trade Union presented Rizo with a letter addressed to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in which they provide a detailed report on the province's results during the present harvest. They also reiterated their goal of producing 1 million metric tons of sugar in 1990 and not going below that volume thereafter.

The ceremony was also presided over by Luis Alvarez de la Nuez, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and first party secretary in Matanzas.

Santiago de Cuba To Host Moncada Anniversary

FL3004121488 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Apr 88

[Text] The PCC Politburo has approved the proposal to hold the main event marking the 35th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada Barracks in Santiago de Cuba.

The decision was made in acknowledgment of the province's extraordinary efforts that have enriched its history of struggle with the people's daily heroism in each work post and defense task.

The Politburo has also designated Granma Province and its capital, the historic city of Bayamo, as the secondary cite of the main events.

Correction to Item on PDRY Party Leader

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Presents Playa Giron Order," published in the 6 May Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 1, column one:

Column two of page, first paragraph, from line nine, make read...worked at Aden University or the education received by our students in the Radfan School on the Isle of Youth and other signs...(correcting name of school)

Dominican Republic

President, World Bank Officials Discuss Loan

FL0705145288 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] President Joaquin Balaguer met yesterday afternoon with World Bank officials, continuing his efforts to obtain a loan of approximately $200 million.

Prior to the meeting with Balaguer, (Sesuco Ono), (Joseso Col), and (Richard Pro) met with Guillermo Caram, technical secretary of the Presidency, and Juan Jose Arteaga, economic adviser of the executive branch.

The World Bank officials finalized details with President Balaguer for the concession of a $200-million loan, part of which will be designated for the Dominican Electric Corporation [CDE].

In order to grant the loan, the World Bank will require an increase in the energy tariff, a recommendation which was made to Balaguer by the CDE administrative council.

Balaguer, Spanish Bank Official Discuss Projects

FL0505203588 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 May 88

[Excerpt] President Joaquin Balaguer met last night in his office with the director general of the Bilbao Vizcaya Bank of Spain [words indistinct], Enrique Mas.

The talks focused on projects in tourism, aeronautics, and energy in the Dominican Republic. The projects are based on the rescheduling of the foreign debt and other complementary financing plans.

Also present at the meeting were Guillermo (Jauregi), [words indistinct], and directors and representatives of the Spanish bank in the Dominican Republic.

In remarks made to the EFE press agency, Mr Mas said that he has held talks with Dominican political and financial authorities with whom he has discussed the possibility of developing projects in tourism and other sectors.

The Bilbao Vizcaya Bank has a portfolio of several projects for the Dominican Republic valued at approximately $150 million which are pending the approval of the rescheduling of the foreign debt. [passage omitted]

Archbishop Says Tripartite Talks Will Continue

FL0505200388 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Msgr Nicolas de Jesus Lopez Rodriguez, metropolitan archbishop of Santo Domingo, has expressed his confidence that the tripartite talks will continue. However, the Catholic prelate nevertheless acknowledged that the negotiations have reached a complex stage since the business and trade union sectors have not been able to agree on certain points.

Lopez Rodriguez said he was confident that the seven trade unions participating in the talks will retain their equanimity [words indistinct] throughout the negotiations. According to the archbishop, the points in question pertain to an increase in wages and a 50 percent reduction in the cost of several products consumed in large quantities.

Lopez Rodriguez said that, despite the inconvenient last-minute (?events), the position of the trade union representatives has been upstanding.

Speaking at a news conference, the Catholic prelate said that up to this point, the trade unions have not issued any communique indicating that they have decided to withdraw from the negotiations.

The archbishop acknowledged that the trade unions have a right to call a plenary meeting to analyze what steps to take at the tripartite talks.

Firms Propose Various Measures

FL0705154188 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1216 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] The Herrera Association of Industrial Firms has proposed a number of measures that would make it possible to avoid the failure of the tripartite talks and improve the country's standard of living and sociopolitical situation. The businessmen are also calling for a quick agreement between the government, businessmen, and workers, with the mediation of the Catholic Church.

The association also says that an effort should be made to inject the entire nation with fresh, external financial resources for the implementation of priority production projects. They insist that it is necessary to maintain and not increase public investment levels. External flexible resources would be used to finish qualifying projects giving priority to production investments, such as those in the energy and agricultural-livestock sectors and the most essential public service industries, said the association of industrial firms.

Former President Predicts 'Social Explosion'

FL0705143588 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1213 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Former Dominican President Prof Juan Bosch has said that the growing deterioration of the population's standard of living could generate a social explosion at any time. Bosch said that the terrorist acts occurring throughout the country with homemade bombs could turn into something else.

This will keep growing, he said. It will increase and we don't know how far it will go, he said. We will have to wait and see, Bosch added.

In remarks made to Radio Mil Informando, Prof Bosch said that these actions are similar to the protests that occurred in 1984 when the people, desperate because of their poverty, went out and attacked [word indistinct] and stores. They were massacred by the Army and the police, he said.

The people continue to be manipulated here and this is a dangerous thing to do with a hungry people, he said. You cannot play with a hungry people, said Prof Bosch.

Armed Forces Assist Bombing Investigation

FL0705151488 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1221 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Armed Forces Secretary Lieutenant General Antonio Imbert Barreras has confirmed that the police are investigating cases involving bomb explosions.

Imbert Barreras stressed: They are detaining and interrogating suspects. They are working on it. You know, it's difficult, but the police force is working very hard on this.

The secretary said that the role of the Armed Forces is to provide the police with support from their intelligence services. The police force is responsible for public order, he said. Imbert Barreras said that the military provides support to the police to guarantee the tranquillity and peace of all Dominicans.

Three homemade bombs have exploded in the city of San Cristobal. The last one was thrown at people who were marking workers' day at the San Cristobal Hotel. The bomb injured several people, including an Armed Forces official.

Intelligence organizations began a series of searches to find those responsible for the terrorist acts.

Grenada

Gairy Reacts Angrily to U.S. Embassy Denial

FL0705180688 Bridgetown CANA in English 1506 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, May 7, CANA—A denial by the United States Embassy here that it had sent signals to the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) that Washington might be unhappy with a proposed leadership change, has brought an angry reaction from party leader, Sir Eric Gairy.

The former prime minister has denied ever making such a statement and has said whoever was responsible for telling the Americans so was not only "wicked and malicious", "unpatriotic and wicked", but also "intelligently and skillfully subversive".

The embassy on Tuesday issued a statement denying it had influenced the GULP's suspension of Gairy's handpicked heir apparent, Dr Raphael Fletcher, and saying it was not concerned about leadership appointments by Grenadian parties.

Gairy had said last month that GULP supporters were concerned that if the U.S., Canada, and Britain were not pleased with Dr Fletcher because of a former working stint in Libya, it would be folly to push him as a future prime minister.

Dr Fletcher, a physicist, taught in Libya from 1981 to 1984.

"I, Eric Matthew Gairy, categorically deny having told anyone by any form of communication media that any person from the United States Embassy gave me any information or any signal relating to Dr Fletcher's involvement in Libya. There is absolutely no truth in this," Gairy told CANA.

"...Our enemies are diligently pursuing their determination to dampen the relationship existing between the American people and the pro-American Grenadians in Grenada," he added.

Gairy said Fletcher's suspension was an independent decision taken by the party's executive and confirmed by its general council.

"Our Grenada United Labour Party is old enough, experienced enough, and intelligent enough to decide whether or not Dr Fletcher's membership and his aspirations to lead the government of Grenada would be in the best interest of our party and our nation", Gairy said.

Fletcher, a newcomer to Grenadian politics, was named deputy leader of the GULP last year.

GULP Team To Investigate Suspended Members

FL0505145888 Bridgetown CANA in English 1517 GMT 3 May 88

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, May 3, CANA — The opposition Grenda United Labour Party (GULP) says it has appointed a five-member team to investigate allegations against two suspended excutive members, including the man being groomed to succeed Sir Eric Gairy as party leader.

The part's organ, the GRENADIAN GUARDIAN, said that the committee intends to come up shortly with a "fair and just report."

Deputy political leader Dr. Raphael Fletcher and Ronnie St. Louis were suspended nine days ago by the GULP's ruling body.

Fletcher, a 58-year old physicist, was appointed in December to the number two post in the GULP with the clear intention that he would succeed Sir Eric Gairy.

Gairy told reporters on April 22 that Fletcher's suspension is linked to his connections with Libya where he taught for some time and of alleged links with leftist groups in London.

No reasons were given for the suspension of St Louis, a brother of opposition leader M.P. Phinsley St. Louis.

Haiti

New Government Security Plan Outlined

FL0605214588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] In today's edition, LE PROGRESSISTE HAITIEN reveals that the government has adopted a strategic plan to combat insecurity.

According to the paper, Prime Minister Martial Celestin on Wednesday, 4 May, assembled certain high-ranking officials with particular attributions and responsibilities regarding security, and a plan to staunch the flow of violence in Haiti was adopted.

Among other things, this plan includes:

The setting up of a vast security plan with the help of all organizations concerned;

The supervision and recognition of existing security companies;

The controlled reorganization of neighborhood committees and vigilance brigades set up, not with a free hand like before, but rather in compliance with an overall plan drawn up jointly by the minister of justice and the police;

Better immigration control, with better control of foreigners living in Haiti, who will be asked to strictly observe the laws governing their stay in the country;

More effective police activity in the maritime ports;

The cooperation of the public, which will be asked to take certain elementary security precautions. The public will also be asked to cooperate in identifying suspicious people or cars;

Ongoing education of the public as regards vigilance;

Appeals to good citizenship in cases of fire. Good citizenship is in the process of disappearing, the newspaper points out;

An attempt to resurrect the firemen's aides who used to be known as free firemen;

A request for better cooperation from the Red Cross and from the airport services to permit better identification of boat people and immigrants, among whom subversive agents on missions could slip into Haiti, the paper explains;

Closer cooperation between gas stations and the police in security matters;

An oft-hoped-for contribution, in case of fire, from the owners of tank trucks that distribute water, particularly through their association, which is represented by (Picolo);

The formation of watch groups organized by civilians;

Greater generosity on the part of the Finance Ministry in reponse to requests for equipment and spare parts and for the purchase of more modern equipment;

Better management by CAMEP [Centrale Autonome Metropolitaine d'Eau Potable, the Port-au-Prince water works] of the water destined for fire hydrants;

Better use of water by private citizens in order to avoid any waste of the rather precious liquid; and

A tax earmarked for setting up a fire department that will finally be worthy of the name.

The different points of this government plan to combat insecurity were adopted following a 3-hour meeting last Wednesday between Prime Minister Celestin and high-ranking security officials.

Casec Election Results To Be Released

FL0605212088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 0100 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Casecs [Administrative Councils for the Communal Section]: The Results At Last.

The many candidates to the Casecs will soon be able to heave a sigh of relief for their tribulations will soon be over.

A press release from the Information Ministry announces the end of calvary, which has obviously lasted too long.

This afternoon Prime Minister Martial Celestin, accompanied by Interior Minister Yves Auguste and parliamentarians Louis Noisin, senate president, and Jacques St Louis from the Chamber of Deputies, went to the offices of notary Gerard Coradin in order to have the copy of the official record of the Casec election results authenticated by Mr Jean Gilbert, president of the second Provisional Electoral Council.

In the presence of witnesses and the notary, Gilbert initialled each of the pages of the copy that was in his possession. The copy, concludes the press release, will be sent to the president of the Republic to be promulgated and will be published in the Republic's official gazette, LE MONITEUR.

This is a happy ending to a matter that was beginning to get blown out of proportion, judging by the stirrings that it had already provoked. Nevertheless, regardless of how happy the ending, one cannot help but wonder why it took so long to make public a decision that should have been made even before all the fuss we have seen was orchestrated.

However little one reflects upon the press release, one has a tendency to blame Mr Gilbert, who did not fully accomplish his mission, because he kept in his possession the official record of an important Casec election.

In any case, the belated publication of the Casec results remains an action that merits explanations and perhaps even an investigation.

CP Leader Theodore Comments on East Bloc Trip

FL0505210888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 5 May 88

[Excerpt] Rene Theodore, secretary general of the Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH], returned to Haiti this week after a tour of the Eastern bloc countries.

During a press conference this morning, Mr Theodore assessed his trip to the socialist bloc countries, which he was invited to visit by those countries' authorities.

According to Mr Theodore, the Eastern bloc countries greatly desire to cooperate with the countries of the Third World. He criticized the different Haitian governments which, he said, have always ignored the great power that is the Soviet Union, a country which is willing to participate in Haiti's development.

Mr Theodore said he hoped for an end to one-way diplomatic relations. He believes the current government should make an overture to the Eastern bloc. In this connection, Mr Theodore cited the example of Jamaica, which exports bauxite to the Soviet Union. Why shouldn't Haiti do so as well, he asked' Here is an excerpt of the press conference:

[Begin Theodore recording, in Creole] [Words indistinct] Soviet Union, the understanding that we have with the leaders of those countries, shows their great willingness to participate in a big program for overall development with the underdeveloped countries in general and with our country in particular. This would be possible if relations were indeed to be established with those countries and (?if) the Haitian people were willing to support a process such as this, which could lead to the development of ties with all the socialist countries and all other countries.

Of course, in Haiti our governments so far have ignored this great power that is the Soviet Union. They are bound to a single area whereas all over the world right now, all countries (?are) in fact unbinding themselves and dealing as adults [words indistinct], dealing as equals with any country, in keeping with their own national interests.

I had not been in the Soviet Union for approximately 2 years. I arrived in a country that is in the midst of a revolution. What for? To show how the socialist system can encounter limits to its development and seek resources, in the form of organization, in order to go beyond these limits. That is what they are calling restructuring in that country today, what they are calling perestroyka, which means giving greater responsibility to each enterprise, to each republic, even to each citizen, in the initiatives that must be taken for technical progress, exchanges within the society, and another kind of international relations—not just among the Soviet (?republics), but also among the Soviet Union and all other countries. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Central Bank 'Flooded' by Bounced Checks

FL0605225588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 0100 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The counters of the BRH [Banque de la Republique Haitien; Haiti's central bank] are flooded by bounced checks.

The newspaper PANORAMA sometimes contains information so valuable that it marks an epoch. In this way, the edition we got yesterday, 4 May, is appreciable.

It reports that the counters of the BRH are being flooded by a considerable number of bounced checks. According to the daily, which quotes the bank's quarterly magazine, more than 10 million checks, totaling $13 million, were returned for insufficient funds. Most of these checks were simply stopped because the accounts on which they were drawn have either been closed or are nonexistent.

Such crimes, which are severely sanctioned by the law, merit an investigation so that the crooks can be summoned to appear to explain.

Torture Alleged at Miragoane Military Outpost

FL0605220188 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 6 May 88

[Excerpts] According to reports circulating in Miragoane, the soldiers at the military outpost at (Carrefour Derizo) regularly torture prisoners with electric current. The official in charge of the military outpost denies this. Our correspondent will give more details.

[Correspondent Jean Renel Jean-Baptiste] [Passage omitted] (Dieuvil Desulme), who was released from the jail, came and told us what the prisoners are put through. He said that, for one thing, the soldiers make the prisoners go and get wet and then apply electric shocks. This happens at any hour of the day or night, just because they feel like it. They also sometimes beat them about the ears. [passage omitted]

We didn't just take his word for this. We went to the outpost, where we met with the official in charge of the post, (Fouille Delva). He said everything (Dieuvil) had told us was a lie. [passage omitted]

However, this is being much talked about in Miragoane. Some think it would be a good idea for the pertinent authorities to go investigate, before someone is killed by electric current at that outpost.

Preacher's Body Found; Linked to Crime Wave

FL0605214188 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The population of Tabarre found the body of 50-year-old Felix Alexis the day before yesterday in a cultivated field in Tabarre. According to certain reports, Alexis was a preacher and the father of seven children. The body was already decomposing and showed signs of having been struck with a machete and stabbed. Dogs in the area had already begun to tear at it.

According to information we obtained, Alexis, a resident of the Pouplard area, had gone to Mais Gate Airport Monday to meet the plane of a friend, a fellow preacher who was to arrive in Haiti on that day. Alexis never returned home and his body was later found in the field in Tabarre.

This is just one more link in the long chain of crimes and murders that has thrown Port-au-Prince and its environs into mourning and paralyzed activities for several weeks

now. People can no longer even count on the fingers of their two hands the number of crimes that have occurred in the capital since this new series of murders began.

However, despite the fact that last 26 April the president pointed the finger at a certain sector during an interview over Radio-Television Nationale d'Haiti, the big question still remains: Who exactly are the people parcelling out death in the capital? What exactly are they seeking, since there is at present no election to annul? Regarding the identity of the murderers, certain residents of the Freres section [of Petion-Ville] might know something about it.

According to a citizen who asked to remain anonymous, last week a group of bandits, a group of not too ordinary thieves, broke into a house in the Freres section. While they were thus engaged, they were quickly surrounded, caught, and severely beaten. However, in the end, they ended up letting them go, because the scandal could not be allowed to burst out into the open.

Jamaica

Government Unveils Medium-Term Economic Program

FL0505202588 Bridgetown CANA in English 1459 GMT 4 May 88

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 4, CANA—The Jamaica Government Tuesday night unveiled its medium-term economic plan, forecasting economic growth in the four per cent range over the next three years.

According to a policy document tabled in Parliament, the government expects economic growth of four per cent in the current fiscal year and to remain at 3.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent per annum for the remainder of the medium term framework period. This should achieve a reduction in unemployment (as measured by the ratio of active labour force without jobs to the entire labour force) of about 2-2.5 per cent per annum, representing overall annual job creation of about 45,000 jobs, said the document.

The document, titled "Going for Growth," was to buttress Prime Minister Edward Seaga's closing of his final budget before general elections here this year. The plan is predicated on tight fiscal management and strong private sector activity, the maintenance of a flexible and competitive exchange rate and the maintenance of government wage guidelines to keep inflation under control.

In the first part of his budget presentation 11 days earlier, Seaga dealt largely with plans for the rejuvenation of the social sector, run down during years of stern economic adjustment. The government forecast total spending of J7.35 billion dollars (1 Ja dol; 18 cents U.S.) on social services over the next five years. The medium term programme, up the 1990-91 fiscal year, calls for public sector investment of J6.4 billion dollars. Total investment expenditure—of the public and private sectors—is up to 18 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per annum. Domestic savings will also have to increase at 8.5 a year.

However, the government made clear that continued heavy external financing was critical to the programme. This was especially so because significant portions of the principal on the country's U.S.4 billion dollar foreign debt will become due over the next three years. "Consequently, gross external capital requirements, including private capital inflows, average about U.S.750 million dollars per annum over the medium term," the government paper said.

Seaga told Parliament that both the economic programme and his plan for the social sector had the blessing of the World Bank and that the financing would be available—generated by local growth and from foreign inflows. "The financing is in place for this programme," declared the prime minister, scoffing at critics who say that his government has consistently reduced sharply the capital spending projections in its budgets. "The target which we have set is attainable," he added.

If the programme works the government is projecting that unemployment would be reduced to 18 per cent—from the estimated 21 per cent at present.

Another important element would be to bring under control the country's foreign debt, which, on a per capita basis, is among the worst in the world. Jamaica's external debt is 134 per cent of GDP and even after rescheduling requires 48 per cent of foreign exchange earnings for servicing. The government wants to borrow less, complete additional rescheduling and debt conversion and expects by 1990 to bring the payments ratio to 36.2 per cent and to 21.8 per cent by 1995-96.

Jamaica carried out significant rescheduling last year with commercial banks and Paris Club lenders and will be going to the club again this year. "The Paris Club rescheduling will be necessary beyond that already arranged for the fiscal year 87/88," the document said.

Seaga has warned workers that they will also have to continue to hold strain on wages while they improve real productivity. He announced that the 10 per cent wage increase guideline imposed under last year's stand-by agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will continue to hold for 1988/89, and projected low inflation. "For the duration of the medium term, wage guidelines will be set in accordance with the macroeconomic parameters," the policy statement said.

President Pleased With Solidarity Pact Results

PA0705223588 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 May 88

[Speech by President Miguel de la Madrid in Nayarit on 6 May—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Since February, the Economic Solidarity Pact has managed to considerably reduce inflation, which, in December and January, dangerously approached a hyperinflationary level. I also agree that if Mexicans had not hit upon this anti-inflationary strategy, price increases would have been greater than they were in the final month of last year and the 1st month of this year.

Therefore, we saw in February, March, and April that price increases declined considerably. The final prices for April will be published next week, but preliminary reports indicate that April's inflation will be approximately 3 percent, which is a success about which all Mexicans should feel proud. There are economists who point out that if the pact continues to be implemented under the terms agreed upon for May, we may see an additional decline in inflation to somewhere near 2 percent.

When we signed the pact in December, I thought the results would be slower in coming and that an inflation rate of approximately 2 percent would be achieved by the end of the year. I believe that to have achieved this by May is reason for great satisfaction, but it must not be viewed as a reason to neglect the struggle against inflation. I have seen other countries implement stabilization programs similar to if not equal to ours that—after achieving a reduction in inflation—became careless, and inflation increased to levels even higher than before. Therefore, we cannot claim victory just yet in the struggle against inflation.

I have said on other occasions that even a monthly inflation rate of 2 percent is too high for the Mexican economy. I have pointed out that we will only be able to say that we have defeated inflation when our inflation becomes substantially similar to that of the countries with which we trade, especially the United States. Our inflation would have to be approximately 3 or 4 percent annually. Our goal, therefore, should be to make our economy capable of having an inflation rate no greater than 5 percent annually on a very short term. This is not a program for the next 5 years; this is a program that—if we continue as we have so far—could be fulfilled next year. The country would thus be in much better shape to recover and to maintain a healthy and sustained growth.

Mexicans have also learned from this crisis that it is not worthwhile to experience growth for 2, 3, or 4 years at very high rates if this period is followed by several years of little growth or economic stagnation. It is better to have a growth rate that is congruent with our economy's real capabilities, instead of trying to hasten our pace, which could lead to plunges and relapses.

The government I head knows, therefore, that during its final months in office it must continue to make firm, persevering, and disciplined efforts to reduce inflation. We will continue to do this, and we will fulfill our responsibilities. We will continue to maintain the strictest discipline with regard to our budget. We have made many efforts that now allow us to have an operational surplus. We achieved this from carryovers from last year when we had a surplus of more than 5 percent, calculated on the basis of ordinary income compared with ordinary expenses.

This year we will increase this operational surplus by a little more than 8 [percentage] points. We will also continue to rationalize the size and coverage of the public sector to strengthen state leadership. A state cannot be strong, a state cannot exercise its economic leadership if it is a structurally disadvantaged state. Only demagogues say that an economy can be run with a high deficit and with deficient public institutions. The Mexican state has to be strong because we need a strong country, but we will not be prey to the temptation of populism, which offers as a solution to problems financial irresponsibility and mismanagement at state institutions. [applause] [passage omitted]

Tian Jiyun Addresses Mexican Businessmen

OW0705000788 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 0138 GMT 5 May 88

[By reporter Shen Jiasong]

[Text] Mexico City, 4 May (XINHUA)—In his speech in Mexico City today, Vice Premier Tian Jiyun warmly welcomed Mexican businessmen to keep the Chinese market in view, to trade with their Chinese counterparts, to invest and set up factories in China, and to engage in technological exchange and many other forms of cooperation with China.

Vice Premier Tian Jiyun is now on an official friendly visit in Mexico at the invitation of the Mexican Government. Today he attended a breakfast given by the Mexican Businessmen Council for International Affairs in his honor. In his speech at the breakfast, he briefed those present on China's economic development, economic restructuring, and opening to the outside world.

Vice Premier Tian said: The main task facing China now is to vigorously develop its productive forces and a planned commodity economy and to build itself step by step into a prosperous, powerful, democratic, civilized, and modern socialist state. To achieve this objective, China has since 1978 been unswervingly implementing the policies of reform and opening to the outside world. After more than 9 years of effort, we have achieved remarkable success.

Vice Premier Tian Jiyun told Mexican friends: Unswervingly opening our country to the outside world is a basic national policy it will uphold for a long time to come. Now taking shape in China is a multilevel structure of "special economic zones, open coastal cities, open coastal economic zones, and inland areas" for opening to the outside world, with particular emphasis on each zone, city, or area. By the end of 1987, China had approved more than 10,000 enterprises with foreign investment. More than 4,300 such enterprises have gone into operation or started business, over 85 percent of which have gained the desired economic benefits.

Vice Premier Tian briefed Mexican friends on the major policy decisions adopted by the 13th CPC National Congress and the 1st Session of the 7th NPC concerning opening China wider to the outside world as well as the important corresponding measures taken by our government. He then said: In our coastal areas, there is an ample supply of manpower, whose quality is relatively high but whose cost is relatively low. Our coastal areas which have a relatively strong capability for technological development are bound to become ideal places for foreign investors, financiers, traders, and personages of other circles to develop economic and trade cooperation with China. They can do a lot there.

On the development of bilateral economic and trade cooperation between China and Mexico, Vice Premier Tian Jiyun said: Both China and Mexico are rich in natural resources, and each has its own advantages in economic development; and they, with certain industrial and technological foundations, can complement each other in many fields and have a great potential to tap each. He expressed hope that those in economic and trade circles in the two countries will have their eyes on the future, make joint efforts to explore and to do practical work, and achieve more substantial results in expanding economic cooperation and trade between the two countries.

Vice Premier Tian said in conclusion: On the principle of "equality and mutual benefit, putting stress on substantial results, and working for common development in various ways," the Chinese Government will continue to support and encourage personages of economic and trade circles and relevant companies in China to further develop economic cooperation and trade between China and Mexico.

Commentator Notes 'Failure' of U.S. Policy

PA0405222588 Mexico City El DIA in Spanish 26 Apr 88 p 11

[Unattributed commentary: "New Failure"]

[Text] Just as he was about to end his South American tour, Vernon Walters, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, softened his interventionist tone and stated in Brazil that his government will not respect the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and that an "honorable way out" must be found for General Noriega. [sentence as published]

Walters also denied that his government is contemplating military intervention in Panama, and spoke of "peaceful solutions." In fact the U.S. official and former CIA agent did not find, as he had expected, an echo of the U.S. interventionist policy, designed by the White House and the Pentagon, among the chiefs of state that he visited. In Montevideo, Lima, Buenos Aires, and Brasilia, Walters encountered South American presidents who reiterated their stand in favor of nonintervention in the affairs of other countries and totally against U.S. intervention in Panama.

Both Walters and Abrams clearly stated before starting their tour that they did not dismiss the possibility of armed intervention against the government of Solis Palma.

The U.S. officials' tour of several Latin American countries could be considered a new failure for U.S. diplomacy, which Walters is trying to save at the last minute, hiding the real reasons behind it: to seek a consensus and create awareness among the peoples of the continent of a possible military intervention against Panama.

Therefore, it is absolutely clear to the Reagan administration that it cannot drum up support from any Latin American government or peoples for an interventionist adventure on the continent.

If Reagan wishes to end his second term with flying colors, he will not find a new Grenada to boast of his political and military strength.

Time is running out for the White House tenant, while the Latin American countries' solidarity and support of the principles of nonintervention and respect of sovereignty is growing and becoming stronger. No, Mr Reagan, not again in Latin America.

Salinas de Gortari Views Simpson-Rodino Law

PA0505142088 Mexico City XHTV Television n Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 88

[Report by Cynthia Lara; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpt] PRI presidential candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari presided over a meeting in Tlaquiltenango, Morelos on peasant immigration . He said the U.S. Simpson-Rodino Law will not prevent the United States from continuing to need Mexican labor:

"I believe the Simpson-Rodino Law will not be able to overcome the economic reality in the United States. That reality is that the U.S. economy continues to require Mexican workers."

The PRI candidate said he is concerned this law will be used as an excuse to abuse migrant workers:

"That is why, when this law expires, we must be prepared to give opportunities to our compatriots who will return to Mexico. Above all and because of the U.S. economic reality, we must be ready to defend the human and labor rights of our compatriots in the United States who will stay there because that economy needs them. When the law expires, they might be abused and get unworthy treatment from U.S. officials and employers."

Salinas de Gortari said the intensive work program must be strengthened in the northern border states:

"We must also strengthen our efforts, watchfulness, and attention toward the compatriots who return from the United States so they will not be fleeced and exploited by Mexican authorities. We must redouble our efforts so they will not be treated in Mexico as we are protesting they are being treated in the United States." [passage omitted]

Briefs

Grain Production Figures

The Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources [SARH] reported that corn, wheat, and bean production dropped during 1987 as a result of various climatic reasons that affected growth. Corn became the number one import, with shipments worth more than $283.6 million. SARH acknowledges that there was a dynamic agricultural growth between 1983 and 1985 that reversed its trend in 1986. Agriculture grew an average of 3.9 percent each year between 1983 and 1985. In 1986, it started to drop at a rate of 5 percent. The trend in 1987 remained the same. During 1987, bean production dropped 5.4 percent, corn 6.3 percent, and wheat 7.6 percent. Sorghum production increased 29.5 percent during 1987. [Summary] [*PA0405210988 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 4 May 88 pp 1, 12*]

Drug Seizures

The Mexican Attorney General's Office reported today that between January and April of this year, the Mexican Narcotics Police confiscated 2.8 tons of cocaine, 120 tons of dried marijuana, and 84 kg of opium and heroin. During the same period, the police destroyed 4,656 marijuana plantations (599 hectares) and 14,036 poppy plantations (1,256 hectares). The police arrested 4,127 alleged drug traffickers and confiscated 1,414 weapons of various caliber, 725 vehicles, 13 planes, and 10 boats. Attorney General Sergio Garcia Ramirez said drug trafficking and drug addiction are problems that require a concerted effort at the international level with adequate financing, exchange of information, and suitable legal norms. [Excerpt] [*PA0305204688 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1648 GMT 3 May 88*]

Costa Rica

Arias: URNG, Reconciliation Commission To Meet

PA0705160888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2242 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] San Jose, 6 May (ACAN-EFE)—Today President Oscar Arias announced a meeting between the Guatemalan guerrillas and the Guatemalan National Reconciliation Commission (CNR) on 20 May in San Jose to seek a cease-fire.

The president made the announcement today at a news conference marking his 2d year in office. The remarks followed a report on the progress the "Esquipulas II" plan has made.

Arias Sanchez said he feels "optimistic" about the meeting between the CNR, headed by Msgr Rodolfo Quesada Toruno, and the URNG, comprising Guatemala's three guerrilla groups.

The Costa Rican president, who won the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his efforts for a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict, said he is pleased over the progress made toward regional peace since 7 August 1987, when the "Esquipulas II" agreement was signed. He cited the dialogue between the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) and the Nicaraguan Government as part of this progress, although he regretted these talks had encountered so many stumbling blocks after the signing of the Sapoa agreement on 23 March.

The first round of "face-to-face" talks between Sandinists and "contras" took place in Sapoa, Nicaragua, on the border with Costa Rica, where on 23 March both sides signed a 60-day military truce, which ends on the last day of May. After this first round of talks two more meetings were held in Managua, but no further progress was achieved in the search for a negotiated cease-fire that would end the war, which has lasted almost 7 years.

Arias Sanchez said the leading obstacle to the achievement of greater progress in Nicaragua is "the lack of confidence and the unwillingness to compromise" displayed by both sides.

The president also regretted the deadlock in the talks in El Salvador between Jose Napoleon Duarte's government and the FMLN and FDR (FMLN-FDR).

"Things (in El Salvador) seem to have a grim short-term future," the president noted, dismissing the possibility of a dialogue between the government and the guerrillas during Duarte's tenure because, he said, "conditions are not right."

Arias accused the USSR of sending military aid to the Nicaraguan Government and the Salvadoran and Guatemalan guerrilla movements, in open violation of the peace agreements signed in Guatemala last year.

"This military aid is objectionable," the president said, "because we all know that no one has received more weapons than the Sandinist government," which he accused of being "dictatorial" and "lacking political pluralism."

Arias on Request to Gorbachev for Meeting

PA0705220488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2232 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] San Jose, 6 May (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias does not dismiss the possibility of a future meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Asked about the results of his request to hold talks with the top Communist leader, Arias said that "so far there is nothing yet" on the matter.

"Let us talk about eliminating conventional weapons, which are the ones that kill our children and the children of the Third World," Arias urged Gorbachev in a 7 March letter requesting that arms shipments to Nicaragua be suspended.

A Kremlin spokesman responded, setting terms for the Costa Rican request, but said nothing about the proposed dialogue. At a news conference today, the president said that perhaps one day both leaders may hold talks.

Oscar Arias concluded by stating that "only Central American peace" would be the topic of a possible future meeting.

Gorbachev did not respond directly to the Costa Rican president's letter, in which Arias asked that arms shipments to the Sandinists be suspended "if the USSR really seeks to prevent further bloodshed in the region."

Instead, Vadim Rozanov, Soviet ambassador to Costa Rica, answered Arias' letter, setting as a condition that the suspension of military aid to Managua be met by a similar U.S. action with regard to the contras.

Arias will travel to the United States late this month to hold a series of lectures at three U.S. universities in Washington, Boston, and New York.

On Nicaragua Press 'Attacks'

PA0705213788 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1857 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] San Jose, 7 May (DPA)—Today Costa Rican President Oscar Arias reacted to "the unjustified attacks" carried by Nicaraguan progovernment newspapers and publicized in San Jose. Among other things, the newspapers criticize Arias for having asked the USSR to stop sending arms to Central America.

In responding to the attack, Arias said that "this is typical of dictatorial regimes," adding that "we must remember that Nicaragua is a dictatorship."

"All I did was send a respectful letter to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev," Arias said. He pointed out that "in the past few months, Nicaragua has received large arms shipments from the USSR, and this violates the Esquipulas II agreements."

President Arias stressed that "those Nicaraguan newspapers publish nothing unless previously approved by the Sandinist government."

El Salvador

Duarte To Discuss Peace Plan With Opposition

PA0705021888 Paris AFP in Spanish 0016 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] San Salvador, 6 May (AFP)—It was officially revealed today that Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte has called a meeting with the opposition parties on 15 May to discuss a peace proposal that will put an end to the war that has left over 60,000 dead.

Duarte addressed an official letter to the secretaries general of the National Conciliation Party (PCN) and the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) requesting them to send high-level delegations to a meeting to be held on 15 May at the presidential palace.

In his letter, the president stated: "I feel one of the most important tasks we share is the search for domestic peace for our country, and for this reason (...) I invite you to send a delegation."

According to Duarte, the goal of the meeting would be "to discuss a united policy that will allow us—within the framework of democratic pluralism—to make a constitutional, viable, and concrete proposal to the FMLN-FDR."

The Salvadoran Government and guerrillas held their last meeting in October 1987, but the negotiations broke down when the president demanded that the rebels lay down their arms.

PCN Deputy Rafael Moran told AFP that Duarte's invitation "is healthy because it allows other sectors to participate in the country's political affairs."

Moran added that "we are going to attend the meeting to see what the government has in mind," and he stated that his party's philosophy is to take part in any event that seeks to put an end to the war.

Since the start of his presidential term in 1984, Duarte has met with the rebels three times, in October and November 1984, and in October 1987.

In addition, the Catholic Church is sponsoring a dialogue to be held this month with the participation of all the country's political and trade union organizations, except the government and the rebels.

The meeting will be held at the Jose Simeon Canas Central American University in this capital.

Guatemala

Government Rejects Arias' Mediation Offer

PA0705023788 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 6 May 88 p 2

[Text] The Guatemalan Government has turned down Costa Rican President Oscar Arias's proposal to serve as mediator between our country's authorities and members of the URNG.

Yesterday presidential spokesman Julio Santos said that the Guatemalan Government thanks Dr Arias Sanchez for his efforts to attain an agreement between the authorities and the URNG.

Nevertheless, this type of mediation corresponds to the function of the National Reconciliation Commission, according to what was established at the Esquipulas II presidential summit, he said.

Visibly annoyed, the presidential spokesman added that it is not true that the URNG helped Dr Vinicio Cerezo during his presidential campaign.

We deny such a statement attributed to a representative of that organization, because it is not true. Dr Cerezo had no contact with the URNG before or after the campaign. The URNG representative's statement is irrelevant, the official stated.

Honduras

RN Commanders Expelled for 'Security Reasons'

PA0705152788 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1440 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 May (ACAN-EFE)—The Honduran Armed Forces reported that seven [figure as received] Nicaraguan "contras," among them four commanders, were expelled from the country for security reasons.

The "contras" expelled on Friday are: Commanders Walter Calderon (Tono), Tirzo Moreno Aguilar (Rigoberto), Enrique Herdocia (Cuco), and Encarnacion Valdivia (Tigrillo); and civilians Oscar Montes, Donald Lacayo, Gustavo Quezada, and Orlando Montealegre.

In brief statements to the press, the Honduran authorities explained that those "contras" could have unleashed, at any moment, a bloodbath in Honduras.

The deported "contras" supported the Sapoa negotiations between the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] Directorate and the Nicaraguan Government. They also had requested the removal of military chief Colonel Enrique Bermudez, better known as "Commander 380."

Unofficial reports, neither confirmed nor denied by the Honduran Army, say Bermudez requested the arrest and deportation of his former commanders because he considers them a threat to the stability of the Nicaraguan armed resistance.

Nicaragua

Government, YATAMA Sign Pacification Agreement

PA0705024988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0314 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Tonight the Nicaraguan Government and the YATAMA [Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indians and Creole Groups Organization] Indian forces signed notes that will be sent to international organizations so they will support the pacification process in the Atlantic coastal area and help in the repatriation [of Indians] from Honduras.

During a ceremony at the home of Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, and with the participation of the main leaders of YATAMA, a joint communique was signed by the Nicaraguan Government and YATAMA. Let us hear Augusto Zamora, the Foreign Ministry's political adviser, explain the reasons for the meeting.

[Begin recording] [Zamora] They have signed five letters addressed to the International Red Cross Committee [IRC], UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees], UNDP [UN Development Program], and the OAS secretary general, in his role as a member of the Verification Commission as well as president of the Pan-American Development Foundation. All of this has to do with the peace process that is under way in the Nicaraguan Atlantic area between the Nicaraguan Government and the YATAMA Indian organization and other Indian organizations that have joined the peace process.

It is requested that the IRC send humanitarian assistance as soon as possible in the same manner that it is requested that the other international organizations send technical assistance and assistance for the economic and social development of the Indian communities that have joined the peace process. We are speaking of the repatriation of the YATAMA forces and other Indian forces and their rejoining normal and peaceful life in Nicaragua, as well as the return to our country of some 4,000 Nicaraguan Indians, including fighters, relatives, and supporters of the YATAMA forces: all within the framework of the peace process that began with Esquipulas II and that continued with the signing of the Sapoa agreement.

The OAS secretary general is asked to come and verify the repatriation and relocation of the YATAMA Indian forces who will lay down their weapons. The other forces have joined the peace process. By signing [these notes], this is a formal request for all these organizations to come to Nicaragua to help in the pacification and reintegration into peaceful Nicaraguan life of all these Indian forces.

[Reporter] What are the forces involved in the peace process?

[Zamora] We are referring to the Indian militia groups, such as SUKAWALA [National Association of Sumu Communities] and KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples] for Peace, who have all decided to join this peace process and are here today to request the participation and assistance of the international organizations in the process of reincorporating these combatants into peaceful life in Nicaragua. [end recording]

Following the fraternal ceremony held at the home of Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, the following joint communique signed by the constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the YATAMA Indian forces was read:

[Begin speaker recording] Joint communique issued by the constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the YATAMA Indian organization:

In accordance with the spirit of the Esquipulas agreement, the (Yulu) agreements of 17 May 1985, the agreement of 2 February 1988, and the Sapoa agreement of 23 March 1988, all of which seek to reestablish peace in Nicaragua and end the war and bloodshed, the constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the YATAMA Indian organization have decided to implement the following measures in order to incorporate, as soon as possible, the northern autonomous region on the Atlantic coast into the country's normal life:

1. Formally request that OAS Secretary General Ambassador Joao Clemente Baena Soares verify the gradual and voluntary reincorporation into society of the YATAMA Indian forces.

2. Request the IRC provide urgent humanitarian aid to the combatants, relatives, and supporters of YATAMA and other Indian forces that—availing themselves of the agreements to end the war—make their way to the areas mutually designated by the government and YATAMA.

3. Formally request the UNDP, UNHCR, and Pan-American Development Foundation provide technical aid and materials for agriculture and economic and social development in order to reincorporate the members and followers of YATAMA and other Indian forces into peaceful life.

4. The Nicaragua Government will take the necessary steps to investigate and obtain the release of Miskito Nicaraguan citizens captured in Honduras and clarify the deaths of other Nicaraguan Miskitos, as reported by YATAMA.

5. The Nicaraguan Government will also request the Honduran Government to agree that there be witnesses to verify the repatriation of Nicaraguan Miskitos and Sumus, as well as an investigation commission entrusted to clarify the charges raised by YATAMA on the forced recruitment of Indian youths by the Honduran Army for the FDN mercenary forces.

The abovementioned actions constitute a historical step in the Nicaraguan peace process, particularly in the autonomous region of the north Atlantic area, which should serve as an example for the overall pacification of the fatherland for the benefit of all Nicaraguans.

Managua, 4 May 1988 [end recording]

Calero on Government Charge RN Broke Truce

PA0605234688 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 May 88

["Exclusive" interview with Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) leader Adolfo Calero Portocarrero by correspondent Alejandro Sereno in Washington, D.C.; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Calero] The Sandinists are not abiding by what they signed in Sapoa. They are going backward. They are engaged in a game that is extremely dangerous because they are betting that the Resistance is weak. That is not so. Moreover, the Sandinists are making the Resistance choose between famine and surrender. They will not achieve either of these two things. They want us to starve to death or to surrender.

However, the current belief within Washington's U.S. Administration and congressional circles is that the Sandinists, as Florida Congressman Claude Pepper so rightly put it, are more attentive to the sentiment of the U.S. Congress. If they are interpreting recent U.S. congressional votes against military aid as a sign that there can be no more military aid, they are mistaken. In a situation where the Sandinists rebuff the Resistance's good faith and good intentions to achieve peace with freedom in Nicaragua, or if they respond with deception and bad faith—something they do so well—then the vote can very well change.

In all circles, we have found a lot of sympathy for our position. We have amply demonstrated the good faith that moved us to go to Sapoa and that prompted us to sign [the Sapoa agreements]. That good faith prompted us to continue with negotiations, but so far the Sandinists have hindered them. The Sandinists stubbornly want our surrender. That will never happen.

[Sereno] Dr Calero, the Sandinists have announced through the international media an alleged attack by piranha boats in Nicaragua's western sector. What reports can you you give us?

[Calero] When the Sandinists announce a [words indistinct], they do so with calculating [words indistinct] motives. Let us recall that Nicaraguan President Ortega has threatened a major offensive. It could be that the Sandinists will use the alleged break in the truce to launch the offensive they have announced. In addition, the report serves as a smokescreen to cover the abuses against the working class and other Nicaraguan sectors. In sum, when they report news, they do so with a double intention. [passage omitted]

Intruders Destroy Radio Mundial Equipment

PA0605161488 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 May 88 p 1

[Unattributed article]

[Text] Unknown individuals broke into the Radio Mundial facilities before dawn today and seriously damaged the broadcasting station's console. The break-in was reported to LA PRENSA by Alma Rosa Arana, daughter of the station's owner, Manuel Arana Valle.

According to Alma Rosa the individuals picked the locks to enter the station and, in a well-planned operation, destroyed the tubes and other vital parts of the console, causing inestimable damage, which has practically silenced Radio Mundial.

Radio Mundial is located four blocks toward the lake and one down from Munich.

Arana said that "it is no secret to anyone that it was well-planned sabotage. They wanted to hurt us."

Just yesterday the station's Nicaragua Newscasts, under the direction of Francisco Quijano, was suspended for 8 days by the Communications Media Directorate.

Repairs began this morning, although it is believed that some tubes and other parts will have to be imported for Radio Mundial to resume operations.

Ortega Receives Libyan Envoy, Hails Relations

LD0605173588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1549 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Managua, 6 May (JANA)—President Daniel Ortega, president of Nicaragua, hailed the developing relations between the Arab people in the Great Jamahiriyah and the Nicaraguan people.

In an audience with the brother secretary of the Libyan People's Arab Bureau in Managua yesterday, President Ortega denounced the policy of terrorism practiced by

U.S. imperialism against the Libyan Arab people and the Nicaraguan people. He emphasized the inevitable victory of both revolutions against all imperialist plots.

GDR Envoy Delivers Honecker Note to Ortega

LD0505174088 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1505 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Managua 5 May (ADN)—In a personal message to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, Erich Honecker, the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] Central Committee general secretary and GDR Council of State chairman, has acknowledged the consistent and flexible policy of the Nicaraguan Government to achieve lasting peace, thus lessening international tension.

The message was delivered on Wednesday in Managua by GDR Ambassador Dr Matthias Dietrich, who had been received by President Ortega for the presentation of his credentials.

Daniel Ortega thanked him for the message and requested him to convey to Erich Honecker the fraternal greetings of the Sandanist National Liberation Front and the the people and Government of Nicaragua. At the same time, he acknowledged Erich Honecker's initiative in convening an international meeting for nuclear weapons free zones, which Nicaragua had already promised to support.

Construction Workers End Hunger Strike

PA0605215388 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May 88

[Excerpts] All of the construction workers who took over the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] building have left the building. The CGT leaders said that the striking workers did not eat the whole time they were there. While the workers were leaving the building, the political parties were preparing a number of strike-related activities. The politicians had believed that the strike would last for many more days.

The so-called hunger strike ended. The workers were inside the CGT building for 11 days. Although they claimed they did not eat, many did eat in secret. In addition, there were charges relating to the financing by the political parties and labor unions involved in this movement. Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, has called them [not further identified] his children. Abrams said that all of them had been financed by the White House. [passage omitted]

This morning, four opposition deputies at the Popular Social Christian Party building pledged to conduct activities in support of the people inside the CGT building. Those parties said that they were ready to continue backing the workers if they continued their strike. [passage omitted]

Government Charges CIA Disinformation Campaign

PA0605204488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0305 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Today the Nicaraguan Government charged that the U.S. CIA has been waging a campaign from San Jose, Costa Rica, that seeks to mar the prestige of Sandinist leaders by disseminating forged documents. Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry Secretary Alejandro Bendana stated that the CIA set up an office called the Information Science Unit [Unidad de Informatica] headquartered on (Rossmester) Boulevard in San Jose. The official added that the investigation was carried out by the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry, MININT, which determined that contra Alvaro Icaza is the chief of the Information Science Unit.

According to Bendana, the CIA gives guidelines to the unit on the type of document bearing a Sandinist government letterhead that must be forged in order to disseminate false information to journalists, the diplomatic corps, and opposition political parties in Nicaragua. The most recent case, he added, is related to an alleged letter from Nicaraguan Ambassador to Mexico Edmundo Jarquin that said it was necessary to take advantage of the corruption of the Mexican political system for the benefit of the Sandinist government.

Bendana added that the main goal of the forged documents is to undermine trust in the government of President Daniel Ortega as well as to harm the diplomatic relations with countries such as Costa Rica, Mexico, and Guatemala. The Information Science Unit, the official added, was created in 1983 by Tomas Castillo, alias Joe Hernandez, chief of the CIA station in Costa Rica, who was later replaced by David Lopez. Bendana added that some of the documents forged at the Information Science Unit have been published by Costa Rican, Guatemalan, Mexican, and Argentine newspapers.

Panama

Opposition: Noriega Might Run for President

PA0805201288 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1603 GMT 8 May 88

[By Alister Doyle]

[Excerpts] Panama City, 8 May (REUTER)—Political opponents and diplomats believe General Manuel Antonio Noriega, apparently convinced that Washington's campaign to discredit him will fail, might be considering the possibility of running for president.

"The idea seems absurd, but that does not mean Noriega will not consider it," said Ricardo Arias Calderon, leader of the Christian Democratic Party and probable favorite in the May 1989 presidential elections.

Arias Calderon told REUTER that members of progovernment parties and even acting President Manuel Solis Palma recently suggested Noriega was considering the

possibility of being a presidential candidate. He added that the military officer, who controls the government as commander of the Panama Defense Forces, "would have to manipulate the elections to win."

Diplomats doubt Noriega has the necessary support to participate in the elections, but they would not be surprised if he tries it just to challenge Washington, which has pressured him to resign. [passage omitted]

Rumors that the 50-year-old Noriega planned to fulfill his old dream of running for president have circulated for years, but the possibility seemed remote given the pressures for his resignation.

Noriega has appeared happy, relaxed, and confident in recent public events. In his speeches he describes himself as the people's defender, and Solis Palma described him as a prestigious Latin American leader. A diplomat stated: "He does not seem to be affected by the U.S. pressure. I believe he now feels he calls the shots."

While some political opponents say Noriega might be considering the possibility of staying in power through the Presidency, many believe he would prefer to retire with military honors in Panama.

Military spokesman Martin Paz did not comment on the rumors. Diplomats say, however, that the rumors reveal few Panamanians believe Noriega's power has been seriously weakened by the efforts to force his resignation. [passage omitted]

PPA Prepared To Negotiate With Noriega

PA0605231788 Paris AFP in Spanish 2147 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 6 May (AFP)—Today the Authentic Panamenist Party (PPA), the main opposition party, announced it is prepared to negotiate with Panama Defense Forces Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega. Today the secretary general of the PPA and spokesman for Arnulfo Arias Madrid, Guillermo Endara, stated that "there is no problem in starting a dialogue with Gen Noriega if this dialogue helps resolve the Panamanian problem." Arnulfo Arias Madrid is an octogenarian populist leader who has been president of Panama three times.

Endara said: "Gen Noriega would be demonstrating praiseworthy intelligence and democratic awareness if he were to acknowledge Arnulfo Arias as president of the Republic."

Today, Panamenist militants demonstrated in several Panama City churches to commemorate the 4th anniversary of the national elections that presumably resulted in the military cheating Arias out of a victory. Endara said a dialogue would have to result in an acknowledgment of "the will of the people as expressed in 1984," which means that the Presidency would have to be turned over to Arias.

Endara noted: "Gen Noriega would be enhancing the fatherland if he were to acknowledge Dr Arias as president." Endara avoided attacking the commander of the Panama Defense Forces, whose resignation has being demanded by the Panamanian opposition for the past 11 months.

Yesterday Endara said that several PPA leaders met with State Security Commander Colonel Guillermo Wong, National Investigations Department Commander Lieutenant Colonel Nivaldo Madrinan, and Major Felipe Camargo to discuss today's demonstrations.

It has been reported that the military asked the PPA not to demonstrate on the streets because Civic Crusade elements could infiltrate them and this would force the Army to intervene.

The PPA broke away from the Civic Crusade 2 months ago after stating its opposition to eventual "U.S. intervention."

Regarding Noriega's departure, Endara said this "depends on factors not within the opposition's scope," but he recalled that "the general has placed his resignation at the disposal" of President Manuel Solis Palma. Endara noted: "The general himself has decided to retire, and he must leave in an honorable way." Endara said his party has received "no message" from the Defense Forces acknowledging Arias as president of Panama, but henoted that the Defense Forces "are composed of common people, and sooner or later they will have to please the people."

A PPA source has said that Arias will return to the country within 2 weeks. The source noted: "He will do it at the right time, and then we will mobilize the masses, the people."

Businessmen Call on Noriega To 'Negotiate'

PA0605225088 Paris AFP in Spanish 1944 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 6 May (AFP)—The Panamanian Chamber of Commerce, which for the last 10 months has rejected any negotiations with Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, said a few hours ago it is willing to attend a dialogue with the "strongman of Panama" in order to resolve the nation's crisis.

During a general assembly held last night, the Chamber of Commerce demanded that "Noriega negotiate with Panamanians."

Carlos Lopez Guevera, a former foreign minister and a businessmen, spoke during the assembly and urged the private sector "to be tactful, courageous, and smart," and negotiate with "the true source of power," the military.

The Civic Crusade, of which the Chamber of Commerce is a member, has demanded Noriega's exile as an essential condition for beginning a dialogue, but last night the businessmen demanded the opposite.

During the meeting, Lopez Guevara criticized Noriega for "refusing to negotiate" with Panamanians, yet holding direct negotiations with Washington envoys, such as Michael Kozak, who was here 15 days ago and returned Wedenesday to hold "converstions" with the general. No details on these conversations are available yet.

Meanwhile, Juan Manuel Crespo, another businessman, urged the Reagan administration "to lift" the economic sanctions imposed on Panama in March, after the Panamanian National Assembly dismissed President Eric Delvalle on 25 February and appointed the current president, Manuel Solis Palma, who Washington does not recognize.

In view of the failure of this pressure to provoke the fall of Noriega, Crespo said that, on the contrary, Reagan's measures "are destroying" private enterprise and "helping communism."

Businessmen support democracy, and if they fall, "we will go to extremes," he warned. [sentence as received]

Other businessmen said "the only thing left for us to do is to negotiate among Panamanians," implictly referring to Noriega.

Likewise, Felix B. Maduro, vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, charged that "the government's persecution" has forced several members of the chamber into exile. Among them, he mentioned opposition leader Aurelio Barria, who is in the United States waging a campaign against the Panamanian regime.

Last night, the Chamber of Commerce concluded the assembly "reiterating its support" for the Civic Crusade, a coalition of businessmen, professionals, and conservative political parties, which is leading the protests against the government.

Authorities Release 38 Opposition Members

PA0605143588 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0137 GMT 6 May 88

[By Alister Doyle]

[Excerpts] Panama, 5 May (REUTER)—Panamanian authorities ordered the release of 38 opponents of Panama's military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega who had been arrested last week in repressive actions against government opponents, the lawyer for those arrested stated today.

Lawyer Eusebio Marchosky also said that Panamanian Supreme Court members had told him that pressure from the military forced the court to change a previous decision that had held the arrests of opposition members to be illegal.

Marchosky said that 28 people who had been arrested last week at an opposition activity held in the capital were released last night upon paying fines. Ten others were released on bail.

The government had accused the opposition of scheming subversive plots and said that it had found hidden arsenals of firearms and Molotov cocktails, to be used in last week's antigovernment demonstrations. [passage omitted]

Marchosky said that there is still 1 opposition member under arrest in Panama City and 21 other people, who were arrested last week, are still in custody in the western city of David.

The Panamanian Human Rights Commission said that 45 people were arrested in Panama City and 21 others in David, but that some were released this week in the capital.

One of the prisoners who was released is Enrique Marquez, a Panama Canal worker, whose arrest was condemned this week by the Panama Canal Commission, an organization associated with the U.S. Government.

The U.S. agency said that the arrest violated bilateral agreements protecting canal workers, and it demanded that Panama turn Marquez over to U.S. authorities. [passage omitted]

Christian Democratic Party Leader Arrested

PA0605130188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 5 May (ACAN-EFE)—Ivan Romero, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], was reportedly arrested this evening by military intelligence (G-2) personnel and taken to an undisclosed location. Romero was arrested at the international airport.

ACAN-EFE was informed of the arrest by an authorized PDC spokesman who added that the 56-year-old member of the opposition political party was returning to Panama from the United States on board an Eastern flight.

The source added that Romero had traveled to the United States to attend a meeting of European and Latin American Christian Democrats with the Jewish community in New York. Romero also attended other meetings in Washington.

The reason for Ivan Romero's arrest or his whereabouts are not known.

Spokesmen for the G-2 at the General Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport approached by ACAN-EFE said that they knew nothing about this incident, that they had no information regarding the arrest.

Deported to U.S.

PA0605193788 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1832 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 6 May (DPA)—This morning Ivan Romero, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party, was deported to the United States by the country's authorities, his wife Mabel de Romero reported today.

The opposition politician had been arrested early this morning at the Omar Torrijos Airport upon his return from New York, where he participated in a Christian Democratic International event.

In statements to DPA, his wife Mabel de Romero said: "Today at 0800 my husband, guarded by 10 state security agents, was forced to board a Pan American airline jet headed to Miami."

PDC To File Charges

PA0705025488 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Ivan Romero, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party, was forced to leave the country today. Details on this were provided by PDC President Ricardo Arias Calderon during a news conference held in his residence. Let us listen:

[Begin Arias Calderon recording] They [not further identified] took his clothes off and kept him like that for several hours. He was beaten in the head and in other parts of his body. They hit his toenails with rocks wrapped in wool. In my opinion, the word that describes what was done to him is torture.

Afterwards he was told that he would be sent to Chile. At 0800 today, they put him on a plane. He found out where he was going once he was inside the plane. He was shipped to Miami in place of another passenger, who was forcefully removed so that Romero could take his seat. Romero was not given back his belongings. He wanted his recorder and dictating machine returned to him, but they told him that they would not return those objects to him. This is stealing. I could give you more details, but I just want to summarize the situation.

The PDC will file charges before the attorney general in the next few days. One reason for doing this is to see what excuses the attorney general will devise for not having taken any action, because he knew what was happening this morning. What happened is a violation of several constitutional rights of Panamanian citizens and is in violation of Articles 24 and 30 of our Constitution. Those articles explicitly prohibit the expatriation of citizens. [end recording]

Civic Crusade Lawyer Arrested at Airport

PA0705214688 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1955 GMT 7 May 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 7 May (ACAN-EFE)—Today Rogelio Cruz Rio, lawyer of the opposition Civic Crusade's leaders, was arrested by supposed agents of State Security (G-2) as he returned from Costa Rica, his wife Marcela Garcia told ACAN-EFE.

"Rogelio was returning from San Jose on a regular COPA flight. As he passed the immigration desk, we saw him being taken to the security office, but we have been told that he is not there," she said.

A G-2 spokesman at the Omar Torrijos International Airport told ACAN-EFE that they have no knowledge of anyone being arrested today at the airport. [passage omitted]

Rogelio Cruz had attended a meeting of Latin American businessmen and industrialists in Costa Rica where he represented Carlos Valencia, president of the Association of Panamanian Industrialists (SIP), who is not in Panama. [passage omitted]

'Exiled' to Guatemala

PA0805014588 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0010 GMT 8 May 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 7 May (ACAN-EFE)—Today Rogelio Cruz, lawyer of the opposition Civic Crusade, was arrested by members of State Security (G-2) and "exiled" to Guatemala, his wife Marcela Garcia told ACAN-EFE. [passage omitted]

Marcela Garcia said that Rogelio Cruz was arrested by members of State Security and, for the first time, "his passport was marked with an exile stamp, which is prohibited by the Constitution," she said.

This information was given to her by a COPA airline official, Marcela Garcia said.

She said that her husband might have been arrested "to stop his legal negotiations on behalf of principal Civic Crusade leaders, including Alberto Conte, Alberto Boyd, Tomas Herrera, Jose Raul Moulinos, and Carlos Valencia. [quotation mark as received] [passage omitted]

Marcela Garcia, who is now being advised by her husband's colleagues, said that she is trying to contact humanitarian organizations in Guatemala to obtain more information. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Martin Alberto Paz, in charge of Defense Forces' public relations, told ACAN-EFE that he was going to investigate the incident immediately and will subsequently give an official version of what happened. [passage omitted]

Returns to Country

PA0805234288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2145 GMT 8 May 88

[Excerpts] Panama, 8 May (ACAN-EFE)—Today opposition Attorney Rogelio Cruz, expelled on Saturday by Panamanian authorities, returned to Panama after "diligent efforts" by Army Commander Manuel Antonio Noriega, according to Cruz's statements to ACAN-EFE. [passage omitted]

Cruz called for Attorney General Carlos Villalaz "to investigate this crime, because the expulsion of a Panamanian from his country is a crime punishable by law, and I want him to investigate the case with the same interest with which he is investigating alleged crimes against the state."

"I do not know who is responsible; I do not know that the person responsible is not General Noriega; neither do I know whether it was due to Noriega's diligent efforts that I have been able to return to Panama without problems," Cruz added.

Nevertheless, he insisted that someone is responsible and that it is up to the attorney general to find out who that person is.

Delvalle: Communique on Vote Recount 'Forgery'

PA0705023188 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0151 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 6 May (DPA)—Former Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle is confronting serious problems with the messages he sends to the national and international media from the clandestine location where he has been since he was dismissed.

According to statements made yesterday, the former president was agreeing to a new recount of the tally sheets of the 1984 elections that were described as fraudulent by the opposition.

This afternoon, Mariela de Delvalle had a telephone conversation from an unknown location with the German Press Agency (DPA) saying that a messenger would deliver a note handwritten by her husband, former President Delvalle, on his position.

According to reports circulating among the international press accredited in Panama, there is confusion and a lack of seriousness in the manner in which documents seem to be appearing signed by Eric Arturo Delvalle in his role as president in hiding.

The text of the message is as follows:

"Fellow countrymen: Out of the respect you deserve, I wish to refer to an alleged communique of mine that has been circulating since yesterday. That communique is, of course, a forgery to the extreme that those who made it used my signature taken from an old decree that included the initials of the former minister of the presidency, Nander Pitty. I want to assure you that I will continue struggling until we achieve together a true democracy with justice and liberty for our beloved fatherland."

The document is signed by Arturo Delvalle.

Ambassadors to Bolivia, Colombia Dismissed

PA0705030788 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0107 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Today two Panamanian ambassadors to South American countries were dismissed from their posts, the Information and Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic reported a few minutes ago. In fact, Ambassador to Bolivia Jaime Ramirez Moralez and Ambassador to Colombia Raul Esteban Roger were dismissed today.

Ministry Changes Announced

PA0705015688 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The executive branch has made changes in important directorates within the Foreign Ministry, according to the press secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic. Osvaldo Osorio has been appointed director general of ceremony and protocol, replacing Luis Arrieta, who resigned. Oscar Vargas has been appointed director general of foreign policies. Hernando Franco has been appointed director general of international organizations, conferences, and treaties, replacing Victor Manuel Barletta, who has been transferred to another position.

'Terrorist Group' Circulating Death List

PA0705040688 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 88

[From the "Citizen's Alert" segment]

[Text] Hiding in the shadows, as is customary with those who seek chaos, a group of seditious individuals is trying to provoke violence and crime by anonymously making criminal charges against a large number of citizens, whom they claim they want to subject to the law of "an eye for an eye." In the last few days there have been numerous calls in Panama City and other cities to commit crimes against citizens who are on a list drawn up by these hot heads. These paper terrorists have made charges against citizens who have a history of defending constitutionality, peace, and dialogue in order to achieve national understanding, harmony, and development for the benefit of all Panamanians.

In its attempt to drag the people through an adventure that would culminate with turning the fatherland over to U.S. imperialism and the Reagan administration, this terrorist group, which feels defeated by history, is distributing in streets, plazas, and elsewhere a pamphlet in which it sentences to death 225 Panamanian men and women, members of various professions. The group calls for murder in an effort to shed blood on Panamanian soil; it calls for war among brothers in order to market death, as is the case in other brotherly nations of the Americas; and it calls for crime, ignoring the fact that violence can only bring about more violence and that the crime they are advocating will only cause more deaths until all Panamanians are involved in a race to annihiliation.

However, these terrorists cannot go unpunished, and sooner or later the weight of justice will fall on them. Then, according to the law, they will have to pay for the criminal action they are promoting with the libels that we have mentioned. That is why today we alert the national community to the escalation of terrorism that the enemies of the people seek to sow in our country in order to satiate their mean, shameful appetites. We must be on the alert in order to reject the criminal calls of the treacherous seditious people who seek crime. We must do this in order to prevent Panama from reaching the extremes of some neighboring countries, where an average of 15 people a day are murdered by those who hide in the shadows and act as judge and executioner.

Let us save Panama from this dark destiny. Let us reject and strongly condemn these criminal campaigns, and let us preserve the right to life and peace that all Panamanians and foreigners living in this country have. Let us save our children from the horrible prospect of fraticidial war, and let us save all our people from its self-destruction. These criminals will not succeed!

Union Leader on Webster Remarks, Noriega

PA0705013988 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 May 88

[People's Unity Front (FUP) program hosted by Zelideth Rosales with guest Jose Manuel Meneses, secretary general of the National Central Organization of Panamanian Workers—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Rosales] Now that you are here, Meneses, we have a report dated today noting that CIA Director William Webster does not rule out that U.S. troops will be sent to Panama. I do not know if he is referring to more troops than the ones already here.

[Meneses] Because it is the CIA, I feel one should expect anything. The world knows about its work. In fact, before the United States stages an intervention in any country—and it has staged many interventions on this continent and throughout the world—it has always said it was not going to intervene. Therefore, what is currently happening in Panama, and we want this to be very clear, is that Panama is really waging an anti-imperialist struggle. As an example, we could note that the war in Nicaragua entailed a struggle by all the people. Even the oligarchy joined that struggle. However, the struggle was to topple Somoza. Of course, once Somoza was toppled, people had other ideas. They chose to build a different society, where man was not exploited by man.

Today we are seeing that the struggle in El Salvador is being financed by the United States. However, Salvadorans are the ones getting killed. Therefore, U.S. interests are still not endangered. However, with regards to Panama, where the United States alleges that it is trying to maintain the world military balance and has been showing its concern... [changes thought] 1977 was one thing. The Torrijos-Carter Treaties were signed then, and turning the canal and our territory over to Panama was 23 years away. It is now 1988, and that is another thing. The [treaties'] deadline is drawing near. More and more, the United States is demanding to keep certain things in Panama because of our strategic location.

Therefore, considering that this comes from the CIA, we cannot doubt anything. We know how it has played dirty all its life with the peoples of the world. However, we do have to be certain that regardless of any of the formulas they have been using—ranging from the tricks they played with [Colonel Roberto] Melanio Diaz Herrera to recent developments—the Panamanian people have triumphed, although they have been hit the hardest by this situation. The national government has triumphed. That is why we must repeat, as we did before, that today the national government is in better shape to hold negotiations or discussions with the United States, and even with the opposition.

We are awaiting the corrections [not further identified] that were mentioned. We must be very clear about this. Because of the people's stance, the United States has not won a single battle. If this country's rulers forget this, they would not be acting in accordance with reality. That is why we think the government is greatly indebted to us. There has been a large amount of patience. However, one cannot fool around with this. I think we must have a much more belligerent attitude at home. We are noticing some inconsistencies. What the government and its agencies have given the people who have fought hard to prevent a collapse has been blows. No one understands that. However, we again insist that we must correct that path. We must no longer listen to those ghosts out there trying to scare us. The people stopped being afraid a long time ago. The people have been showing this not only in their combativeness at home but also in the readiness they showed on 29 April. On that day we commemorated another May Day with the Dignity Battalion.

I think these are the things we must be mindful of. There was a lot of fear regarding the training of that battalion. Some people are afraid that all of a sudden the rifles will be aimed in another direction. I think we need not be afraid of that if we work sincerely and honestly and govern with the people.

[Rosales] Also, this same person, Webster, wondered... [changes thought] now he is saying the United States must reflect on the consequences of a military intervention against General Manuel Antonio Noriega. In other words, the intervention is not against Panama. Let me explain: He says the intervention is against Gen Noriega. According to him, the United States is not intervening against Panama but against Gen Noriega. He adds: For our Latin American policy as a whole.

[Meneses] Keep in mind that for several months now they have been going back and forth. Every time a formula fails, they do not know how to handle the problem. First, there was the problem of Noriega's drug trafficking. It turns out that drug trafficking has become a highly profitable business. Unfortunately for them, all that drug... [changes thought] drugs are not produced here. However, they are consumed here. All those drugs are brought from other places. There are some people who work in this trade. Still, this is a transit point, which began to clash with U.S. interests. That is how Noriega became a problem.

Therefore, it has been said that Noriega is not the issue. The same thing was said about Torrijos. And the same thing will be said when Noriega leaves and another officer, president, or other person running the government maintains a firm stance against the type of thing that clashes with the United States. [sentence as heard] So, this thing [not further identified] is a myth to us. Some people here have been listening to that issue for so long they ended up repeating it: When Noriega leaves, the problem will be settled. However, they say that but lack proof. That [the presence of Noriega] is not the root of the problem. We said, way before the case involving Melanio Diaz Herrera, that the deep-down problem was that the United States did not want to hand over the canal. We also said the United States needed to maintain their military presence in our territory for their own military purposes and goals.

It turns out now that many people, including the government, are talking about that. At first, they said we were inventing things. They said we saw everything in terms of the U.S. problem. There you have it. This problem calls for a cool study and political analysis of the situation. This matter ceased to be a concern. [sentence as heard] The United States knows Noriega is not going to remain in command until he dies. He must leave some time. He has publicly said so.

This problem has to be settled at another level. Why? Because the Panama Defense Forces have been educated with a different purpose. The officers now are not the same ones who controlled the military before 1968. They are not the same people whom Somoza and the United States controlled from their own territories. [sentence as heard] They are no longer an army that remains under U.S. control from abroad. I think that as long as things continue as they are, things will get rougher for the United States.

A few days ago, I talked to a private businessman. He told me simply and sincerely that we had to do as the Spaniards did to end the problem. The United States should be allowed to remain for as long as it wants, as long as it gives us millions. In sum, this is how a large number of people think in this country. That idea clashes very strongly with us. Another person, who unfortunately even became a legislator, said the Panamanian people do not eat sovereignty. That means not understanding what the dignity of a people is. Therefore, a person who has never been poor or hungry lacks credibility with the people who have worked hard on this matter regarding our sovereignty and independence.

Regardless of the negative views that may arise, we think that is the right path. We are not the sort of people who say one thing one day and something else the next. Our path has always been the same. Our goals have always been the same. We have been anti-imperialists. We struggle for the workers' rights. There is no change in that position. [passage omitted]

Paper Urges Action Against U.S. 'Impudence'
PA0605141688 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 6 May 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Continuing Filibustering Diplomacy"]

[Text] Everyone is familiar with the old saying: "The best friend is the one who does not hurt you." According to this aphorism, relations among men are based on coexistence, tolerance, and mutual respect. Likewise, this principle can be applied to international relations if we strengthen its contents and make it more concise.

In other words: Panama is very interested in being friends with the world, with the 182 countries that form the United Nations and the half dozen not affiliated with that organization. This friendship is due to the fact that engineers cut a path through the core of our homeland to built a waterway that is used by all ships and flags, even by those who do not recognize our state.

The abovementioned is proof that Panama has no "a priori" enemies and it should not have them. However, overlooking the basic principles of courtesy among nations and governments, U.S. diplomatic personnel accredited in Panama have adopted filibustering attitudes and performed filibustering activities worthy of a Hollywood movie and not of the serious and respectful relations expected among nations. We do not know the real reason for this attitude, but we do know that there is no reason why the Panamanian Government should continue to tolerate the impudence of those who have confused the Yankee Embassy with a nest of conspirators and our authorities' tolerance with fear or indulgence. We must act now!

Argentina

Caputo on UN Candidacy, U.S. Ties, Falklands

PY061532 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1420 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM)—Today Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said his candidacy to the presidency of the upcoming UN General Assembly is an issue that is being "disputed" not only with Barbados, the other country that has proposed itself for the post, but also at the domestic level.

He added: More than just a question of pride, this post is a practical issue for any Argentine representative because it places our country at the highest level of one of the leading world organizations for 3 months. It would mean that Argentina will achieve international attention during this period, and this is very hard to achieve by other means.

Responding to rumors, and stating that he is a man who is spending government funds to seek votes for his personal campaign, Caputo referred to his recent trip to Africa during which, he said, I did not mention the issue once.

In this regard, Caputo said we were the first Argentine mission at the foreign minister level to have visited Africa since that continent achieved its independence, whereas other Latin American countries have been there for over 20 years doing business and establishing useful political ties.

Caputo added: It seems to some people that every trip I make is not intended to promote our foreign policy, which has not been all that bad, but to make international proselytism. He said: Since people do not dare criticize our foreign policy because it has been reasonably successful, they are now inventing these kinds of things.

After describing these critics as beeing short-sighted, Caputo said: We are going to win this election. But he admitted that one should not be premature.

Caputo said the U.S. interest in resuming its military cooperation with Argentina is highly positive and useful, but he added that there is no "essential" prerequisite for this to happen. In fact, there has already been a resumption of cooperation in some aspects without any preconditions.

The foreign minister reasserted that we will agree to an eventual cessation of hostilities with Great Britain over the Malvinas conflict if this will be a useful step that will lead to the start of negotiations.

He said: This is not legally necessary, but if it is useful and will lead to the main objective, that is, the start of negotiations, we will do it. However, if they want us to do this merely to show that we are weak, which we are not, then we will not do it.

In a statement to Radio America, Caputo said that the position of the Foreign Ministry regarding an eventual cessation of hostilities with Great Britain is the same one recently upheld by Navy Chief Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa.

Foreign Ministry Vetoes Tank Sale to Ecuador

PY061552 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1236 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (DYN)—Today the morning newspaper BUENOS AIRES HERALD reported that the Foreign Ministry has vetoed the sale to Ecuador of TAM tanks and spare parts worth $220 million.

Citing "a source close to the operation," the paper reported that the sale, which was closed after 2 and 1/2 years of negotiations, was vetoed by the Foreign Ministry at the request of the Peruvian Government.

According to the source, the Defense Ministry decided that if the tanks are not sold, then the Tamse Co., which manufactures the Argentine medium-size tanks, must be definitively closed because it stopped producing last year.

A confidential report by the Ecuadoran Army indicates that the TAM tanks won the bidding opened by Ecuador over several other tanks.

In a classification based on price and performance, the TAM obtained 950 points out of 1,000, the Coracero tanks obtained 750, the Stingray 530, and the ZMX-13 380 points.

Communist Party, MAS 'Rapprochement' Seen

PY061412 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 May 88 p 10

[Text] Last week, the two most important leftist organizations not represented in Congress, the Communist Party and the Movement Toward Socialism [MAS], began a series of contacts (labeled as "informal" by spokesmen of both sectors) concerning political alliances in the face of the upcoming 1989 elections.

The relationship between Communists and Socialists has deteriorated since the rupture of the People's Front, an alliance of which they were important members. The alliance, however, failed in its goals for various reasons.

The rapprochement took place slowly until 1 May when the MAS held an important rally in the Ferrocarril Oeste Club to celebrate labor day.

Invited to the rally were high-ranking Communist leaders.

The differences in the "character" of the front or alliance are in reality still great.

Two months ago, the Communists made a public proposal about left unity which they believe must exist at two levels: partywise or organic, and the independents. The Communists believe that "the left, politically and culturally, is much more than just an alliance between the Communist Party and the MAS." It includes "many fighters who do not belong to any organization."

MAS wants to create a workers and left front "to join the opposition against the two largest parties" but it refuses "to recognize sectors without representation."

The two parties agree on the need to rescue "the program of the FREDU [People's Front]" as a starting point and that "in order to face Angeloz, Alsogaray, Cafiero, or Menem" it is necessary "to offer another choice to the people who want a different type of country." They also recognize that "it would be suicidal to go to the elections divided."

The Communists and Socialists are in different stages. The Communists are members of FRAL (Broad Front of Liberation). Recently the Humanist Party withdrew from FRAL. FRAL is a party comprised of various groups such as IDEPO [expansion unknown] headed by Nestor Vicente, Luis Eduardo Dehalde, and Cesar Luis Perlinger, and the Radicals for Liberation (of Carlos Vicente), and former members of the Intransigent Party headed by Alende.

MAS participated alone in the 6 September 1987 elections and according to an internal party document the participation was not a bad idea because they became "the main leftist force by getting, for the first time, more votes than FRAL at the national level including the votes for national deputies."

Regarding the internal situation of the Communist Party, they just made a "sudden turn" in their 16th Congress, reducing its medium structure by expelling over 50 leaders "for being Stalinists and dogmatic and resisting change." These leaders include Oscar Arevalo, Ruben Iscaro, Antonio Caporale among others.

Party militants admitted that the latest events created confusion but that "it does not limit the militants participation in public activities." As an example he noted the party's 70th anniversary at which "about 15,000 people gathered in Parque Norte to listen to Patricio Echegaray."

Only about 20 days after that meeting, the party decided "not to hold a labor day celebration alone in a stadium." Instead, the party helped to create "hundreds of proposals throughout the country" from people "who are struggling against the government economic policies and want Sourrouille to resign." With this slogan in mind, party members are going to participate in a 27 May march to the Economy Ministry in support of a document signed by a wide range of leaders such as the Peronists Fernando Melillo, German Abdala, Deputies' Jose Ramos and Roberto Digon, and the Intransigent Party members Luis Manrique and Juan Carlos Ieno.

MAS will hold its 3d Congress from 21-24 May. On this occasion the party will debate two issues (the national situation and balance of activities), and renew its officials.

MAS defines itself as a "minority party with greater elements of influence over the masses which is extended throughout the nation. It is the only leftist party that is growing." It also claims that it reached some hights by becoming the third force in the latest elections in La Matanza, Merlo, San Vicente, Florencio Varela, and Ensenada.

Since 1985, MAS has increased its membership fourfold and "40 percent of the growth occurred after Easter." Now it only needs its legal status recognized in the Provinces of Entre Rios, Formosa, and Chaco.

The good intentions of rapprochement between the followers of Patricio Echegaray and Luis Zamora obviously have problems such as in the election in the Bar Association where they have different lists, and in the Teachers Union where the Communists only participate in CTERA [Confederation of Educational Workers of the Argentine Republic] headed by Marcos Garcetti.

Communist Party Defining Election Plans

PY062218 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1410 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (NA)—Members of the Communist Party (PC) have reported that today or tomorrow, the PC will define its political plan for the next elections, and will analyze the details of a campaign it will sponsor "to force Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille to resign."

The decisions will be made during the debates at the meeting of the 100-member Central Commitee plenum, which will meet today at the party headquarters at 1039 Entre Rios Street, Buenos Aires. The agenda for the debate will center on "two main topics," Press Secretary Carlos Azzariti said. He was referring to methods the party will use "to unite the left."

The objective of the highest-ranking Communist leaders is to reverse the current disintegration of the left, and to act as a catalyst to attract all the factions of the left, none of which, acquired in the last elections the required 3 percent of the vote to elect a deputy.

The possibilities of uniting the aspirations of the PC to those of its ally, the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS), seemed to increase in the last few days, despite long-standing ideological differences. Nonetheless, there are still questions that must be answered in the near future.

The PC is going to meet today and tomorrow under the presidency of the National Secretariat, which is made up of Athos Fava, and Patricio Echegaray, among others, presumably to study the political achievements obtained in 1985 by the People's Front (FREDU) and the unsuccessful experience of the Broad Front of Liberation in 1987.

Another issue, considered to be very important, is the campaign to be unleashed by the PC "to get the resignation of Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille" and to create "opposition to the dictates of the IMF." This campaign will be based on the "unity of the groups struggling under the current economic emergency situation."

The campaign will be aimed at uniting political parties and various sectors around that objective. It will have solid grounds and will avoid leftist expressions.

Police Discover Arsenal in Shantytown

PY070105 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1520 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (NA)—It was officially confirmed today that many weapons, including a missile with an Air Force inscription, military uniforms, and flags with the inscriptions "The Rico Way" [reference to former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico] and "Fatherland or Death," have been found in a shack of the shantytown of Admiral Brown, in Greater Buenos Aires.

This discovery caused the SIDE to intervene in view of possible political implications. It was a casual consequence of a raid to capture three criminals, who on 3 May robbed a butcher shop in Rafael Calzada.

Osvaldo Capporal, Buenos Aires security under secretary, and Luis Piaggio, judge in charge of the investigations, disagreed on the importance of the finding. Capporal said the incident has relative importance, while Piaggio dismissed it.

Capporal said that the group responsible for the arsenal is one of several that "are not important because of their capacity to operate, but because they move into shantytowns, where they intend to create subversive political organizations."

Piaggio, however, dismissed any political connotations of the finding and said: "It was only a shack made out of junk." Regarding the allusion to former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico in the flags, Piaggio said: "It does not mean anything. Perhaps they are only criminals and not members of a cell or an organization."

The incident followed the robbery of a butcher shop by three individuals, one of them a minor. Police Corporal Hector Kahelert, who happened to be in the neighborhood, entered the shop to buy something during the hold-up. He was surprised and quickly disarmed.

Kahelert's life was saved when the criminals pointed his own pistol at his head and pulled the trigger. He fled when gun failed to fire.

An investigation was immediately launched, and one of the criminals was quickly arrested after the corporal recognized him.

The other two criminals were arrested later, after a shoot-out in a shack in the shantytown of Admiral Brown. A search of the shack turned up the arsenal.

Brazil

Sarney Vows To Prevent Disorder, Confrontation

PY061511 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] In his Friday radio program, President Jose Sarney denounced the existence of forces trying in vain to destablilize his government. He also said that Brazilians should be alert and struggle for a pluralist democracy, which will only outlive him if the ultraradical groups that seek confrontation are controlled.

[Begin Sarney recording] Democracy comes from harmony among the state branches. If one of those branches decides to confront another branch, the legal order is broken and the state of law is thrown into chaos. The brazen attempt to involve the president of the Republic in a process of undermining his respectability and authority, both internally and externally, cannot be accepted as a democratic practice.

There is no precedent in the world that permits this practice. Those attempts represent irresponsibility and misuse of democratic freedom. [end recording]

President Jose Sarney made it clear that he will continue to work for the implementation of democracy in the country, without losing his balance and forbearance. He said, I will not let disorder prevail in Brazil.

Sarney Orders Halt to Anti-URP Freeze Actions

PY071723 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] President Jose Sarney has ordered the attorney general and the Labor Court to adopt measures to stop court actions filed with the intent of suspending the salary readjustments by the URP [Price Reference Unit]. Sarney has also asked the agencies and enterprises under federal control to strictly follow instructions given by the Attorney General's Office. In the president's opinion, the nonsuspension of salary readjustments by the URP will worsen the public debt problem and will increase public utilities' rates.

Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega announced that the government does not intend to dismiss civil servants who may win a court action to that effect. Proof of this, Minister Nobrega said, is that the URP salary readjustment is in fact suspended for 2 months. The minister also confirmed that the government will resort to the courts to maintain this suspension, which is an emergency measure necessary to adjust the public deficit.

Deputy Creates New Group To Support Government

PY060335 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 May 88 p 5

[Excerpt] Brasilia—On President Jose Sarney's orders, Carlos Sant'Anna, government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, yesterday organized a nonpartisan group that will work together to defend the government in the Constituent Assembly. On a priority basis, the group, which is made up of 15 congressmen, will work to reorganize the majority won in the vote for the government system and the 5-year presidential term. Their next goal is to guarantee a victory in the vote on transitional rules. [passage omitted]

The group organized by Sant'Anna includes the following deputies: Ricardo Fiuza (PFL-PE), Luis Eduardo (PFL-BA), Expedito Machado (PMDB-Ceara), Delio Braz (PMDB-Goias), Paes Landim (PFL-Piavi), Jorge Viana (PMDB-Bahia), Roberto Cardoso Alves (PMDB-Sao Paulo), Oscar Correia (PFL-Minas Gerais), Gilson Machado (PFL-Pernambuco), Oswaldo Sobrinho (PTB [Brazilian Labor Party]-Mato Grosso), Rita Furtado (PFL-Rodonia), Otomar Pinto (PTB-Roraima), Alberico Filho (PMDB-Maranhao), and Geraldo Fleming (PMDB-Acre). The five Senate vice leaders are: Edison Lobao (PFL-Maranhao), Joao Menezes (PFL-Para), Irapuan Costa Junior (PMDB-Goias), Leopoldo Peres (PMDB-Maranhao), and Carlos Alberto (PTB-Rio Grande do Norte).

Sarney's Son Dismissed From PFL Leadership

PY061830 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 May 88 p 5

[Excerpt] Brasilia—Yesterday, after the agrarian reform amendment which had been introduced by the centerist Centrao Group was voted, PFL leader Deputy Jose Lourenco removed President Sarney's son from the party leadership post for having voted against the Centrao Group amendment. After submitting the decision to Constituent Assembly President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, Lourenco phoned President Sarney.

Lourenco told the president: "I will support your government until its last day. But I cannot have, as a deputy leader, someone who does not act with loyalty."

Sarney replied: "You have done the right thing."

Lourenco then said: "Zequinha (nickname of President Sarney's son) preferred to vote with the PMDB leader, who systematically opposes the government, and not with the PFL, which supports the president." [passage omitted]

Chile

Opposition Parties Agree on No Vote Measures

PY060255 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2007 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Santiago, 5 May (EFE)—A list of 21 measures, entitled "A Commitment to the No Vote," will be published shortly. It was approved by the 13 political parties promoting the campaign against the military government of General Augusto Pinochet.

The 13 parties, which in February signed an agreement to work for the "no vote" in the plebiscite to choose the next president of the Republic, have now signed an agreement known as "The Socioeconomic Commitment of the Campaign for the No Vote."

According to the Constitution promulgated by Pinochet in 1981, the candidate nominated by the Armed Forces will face a plebiscite in 1988, and only if the majority of the Chileans vote no will there be direct elections in 1990.

According to the Santiago media today, the document is divided into four chapters. In it the parties reassert their determination to work for the no vote in the plebiscite and urge the Chilean people to work for a better future because "democracy is a task for everyone."

In the agreements the parties express their desire to struggle "to curb unemployment, increase the minimum wage, readjust pensions, curb the increase of the cost of living, regulate water and electricity rates, reschedule accumulated debts, and struggle for the full respect of women's rights."

CNT Leaders Says 11 May Stoppage 'Suspended'

PY090024 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0013 GMT 8 May 88

[Text] Santiago, 7 May (EFE)—Today the president of the National Workers Command (CNT), which is the main workers union in Chile, announced that the stoppage scheduled for 11 May has been suspended.

At the end of a meeting with leaders of the federations and confederations that comprise the CNT, leader Manuel Bustos formally announced that the stoppage called by the CNT on 1 May had been suspended.

Bustos said: "Violent attacks against union leaders and the difficulty of convincing a greater number of rank-and-file organizations to comply with the stoppage made us analyze the decision further and suspend the stoppage."

During the ceremonies celebrating the 1st of May, groups that identified themselves as members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) physically and verbally attacked Bustos, calling him "a Christian Democratic worm."

FPMR Member Kills Sergeant, Injures Two

PY061459 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Valparaiso—Police have confirmed the identity of the victims of a shoot-out that occurred in Vina del Mar, where CNI [National Intelligence Center] noncommissioned officer Armando Cruz Olivares was murdered at about 1400 yesterday.

A few minutes before the shoot-out, security forces personnel located a Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] safe house at Alley E 518, in the Gomez Carreno 5th sector of Alejandro Navarrete slum, Vina del Mar Alto, near the Expreso Pina busline bus stop. The safe house was only two blocks from the bus stop.

The terrorist, who was identified as Roberto Andau Rodriguez, 24, is one of the high-ranking FPMR chiefs in the district. Andau shot Navy First Sergeant Armando Cruz Olivares, 42, from a close distance. He used a sawed-off shotgun and injured a bus driver and a bus passenger. Andau, who was seriously injured during the shoot-out, was hospitalized with the other two injured people at the Vina del Mar Navy Hospital, where they are still being kept.

In cooperation with police units, the security forces were investigating terrorist Roberto Andau Rodriguez' connections and the extent of his mission when the shoot-out took place yesterday.

Police Detain Six, Seize Smuggled Weapons

PY061924 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Personnel from the San Miguel 13th Police Precinct have detained six people who disobeyed the Law of Weapons and Explosives. These six people smuggled firearms and a crossbow from Argentina. Two of the smugglers were the managers of the San Miguel Hockey Club [words indistinct] Leones Rojos, who were identified as Rene Luiz Diaz, 37; and Adolfo Ganes, 65. The two used their trip to Mendoza as sportsmen to bring the weapons illegally into the country. The others, who were also detained, were identified as Rene Humberto Ortega, 36; Ramon Fernandez Rig, 44; Jose Antonio Olguin, 28; and Juan Roberto Recamal, 34.

Among the weapons seized by the police were: 71 .32-caliber revolvers; 600 cartridges; a compressed-air pistol; and a crossbow with a lock. The detainees and weapons were placed at the disposal of the Military Court.

Puerto Montt Police Find Molotov Cocktails

PY071935 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Puerto Montt Carabineros personnel of the (Maullin) 3d Police precinct have reported that a few days ago, (Quenuille) Carabineros personnel who were patrolling (El Callo) on the (Quenuille) banks found a group of suspicious people who tried to run away when Carabineros personnel approached them. The people were detained as a result of the suspicious attitude of the group, which numbered seven, who were identified as Puerto Montt and Changre fishermen.

The report adds that during the investigation, Carabineros personnel searched the fishermen's boats and found a large quantity of Molotov cocktails.

As no similar incident had ever occurred in Puerto Montt, Carabineros are now intensively seeking information on the people who may have manufactured the cocktails. After inspecting the bombs, Carabineros realized that they were similar to those made by terrorists using techniques described in subversive pamphlets that teach people how to manufacture bombs used in terrorist acts.

Carabineros personnel are now searching the (Quenuille) sector of the Maullin district.

Colombia

ELN Continues To Hold Reporters, Diplomats

Swede Kidnapped

LD0605105888 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 1000 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] A Swedish aid worker, (Irene Nilsson) has been kidnapped by ELN [National Liberation Army] guerrillas in Colombia. According to the Swedish Embassy in

Bogota, the guerrillas have said that (Irene Nilsson) is in safe keeping and that she is not in danger. The ELN guerrillas have also said that the Swedish woman will be used to convey political messages to the Colombian Government.

(Irene Nilsson) works for the Swedish aid organization UBV [Training for Development Assistance Operations], which is financed with support from SIDA [the Swedish International Development Authority], and she has been residing in Colombia for several years. During the past few days ELN guerrillas have kidnapped several foreign diplomats and Colombian journalists.

Communique on Hostages

PA0605190288 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The National Liberation Army, ELN, Camilist Unity Command [UC] delivered a communique to the RCN radio station in Medellin at approximately 1100 today.

The group, which is holding 17 people, including diplomats and local and foreign reporters, said in the communique, entitled With the Press For Life, that a news conference with international reporters will be held Monday and that the hostages would also be released that day. The communique proposes the creation of an international tribunal that would identify those responsible for the dirty war in Colombia. The rebels have suggested Nobel laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel; UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar; Giuseppe Galzetti, member of the International Red Cross; Ivan Stevanc, an Amnesty International member; and Colombian Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez for this tribunal.

The communique also demanded that the government compensate relatives of murdered and reportedly missing people and that the Voltigeros Battalion be transferred from the Uraba zone. The document also expressed support for the Amnesty International report on the Colombian situation.

The document is signed by Manuel Perez Martinez and Nicolas Rodriguez of the ELN's Central Camilist Command.

Reporter Released

PA0705033888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0042 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Bogota, 6 May (EFE)—Colombian journalist Luz Marina Giraldo, who works for the "Seven O'Clock" newscast, was released tonight in Medellin. She showed a video recording in which FRG Consul Hellmut Lucker appeared to be in good health.

Following her release, Luz Marina Giraldo appeared on the "Seven O'Clock" newscast, during which a video was aired showing the kidnapping site.

Giraldo, who was kidnapped Wednesday, said that she was taken to one of the UC-ELN's camps with cameraman Carlos Espinoza, her colleague Guillermo Vallejo of Radio Todelar, and the FRG's consul in Medellin.

Giraldo said that she had a message from the guerrillas protesting the "dirty war" that Colombia is undergoing.

She also reported that, according to the guerrillas, the other hostages will be released later.

The ELN is still holding six journalists and seven others, including foreign consuls and foreign officials.

Governors Threatened

PA0705035788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2312 GMT 6 May 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 6 May (EFE)—The governors of Colombia's departments will be kidnapped next by the Camilista Union of the National Liberation Army (UC-ELN), it was announced today in the guerrilla forces' second communique, which was received by EFE.

The UC-ELN kidnapped seven journalists, two German consuls, two Swiss businessmen, a French press attache, a Swedish Red Cross volunteer, and a Colombian deputy earlier this week.

The guerrilla forces revealed that the kidnappings mark the beginning of their "Operation Life and Sovereignty," and announced that "we will come back for the governors to discuss and exchange views on the creation of a popular and democratic government that would resolve the lack of government leadership in our country."

The UC-ELN kidnapped 10 mayors and 3 journalists in March. Following their release, the hostages revealed that they had been forced to participate in a forum on Marxism and Colombian politics, which was held "at the New Colombia government camps." [passage omitted]

The UC-ELN states in its communique that "our worst disgrace would to let our Colombia—a country that loves freedom, poets, a thousands laughs and joys—become a cemetery full of epitaphs."

Message Sent to Barco

PA0705190888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1750 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Bogota, 7 May (EFE)—The Camilist Union of the Army of National Liberation (UC-ELN), which has kidnapped six reporters, six foreign officials, and a deputy, today sent messages to President Virgilio Barco and Attorney General Horacio Serpa. The text of the messages is not known.

The messages, sealed inside white envelopes, were dropped early this morning in a mailbox at the EFE offices in Bogota.

The return address on the envelopes reads: "Camilist Union of the Army of National Liberation, from the New Colombia Government camps."

One of the envelopes is addressed to Colombian President Virgilio Barco and the other to Colombian Attorney General Horacio Serpa Uribe.

At the Presidency, Security Department Sergeant Garcia told EFE to "mail the envelope to the Presidency" because they had no intention of going to the EFE offices to pick up the envelope the UC-ELN had sent for President Barco.

At the Attorney General's Office, an unidentified official told EFE that "the attorney general is not in and will not be back until Monday. We will advise him then that he has a message at the EFE offices."

Oil Pipeline Losses $113 Million in 1st Quarter

PA0705043588 Paris AFP in Spanish 0026 GMT 7 May 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 6 May (AFP)—Continuous attacks by the leftist guerrillas of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) on the country's main oil pipeline has cost Colombia $113 million due to the loss of income derived from oil exports during the first quarter of the year, the government's National Planning Department has reported.

The pipeline, which is 800 km long and crosses the country from the east to the northeast, has been the target of more than 20 dynamite attacks so far this year.

Statistics released today by the National Planning Department state that Colombian oil exports between January and March totaled only $115 million compared to $248 million during the same period last year.

Although the guerrilla attacks have not resulted in large losses of crude oil, they have temporarily paralyzed oil pumping, thus reducing oil exports.

Furthermore, the state-run Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (Ecopetrol) has had to assume millions of dollars in losses because of repairs to the oil pipeline, in addition to the ecological damage resulting from oil spills.

Today, Mines and Energy Minister Guillermo Perry again condemned the ELN's terrorist acts. This subversive group recently kidnapped and is still holding 15 people, including diplomats, politicians, and journalists. The ELN, which advocates the total nationalization of Colombian oil, which now is jointly exploited by state and foreign companies through a system of partnerships, has concentrated on destabilizing the oil industry. [passage omitted]

As statistics show, the ELN's terrorist acts have caused serious damage to Colombia's oil industry. Since 1985, this country has established itself as a small oil exporter.

This industry has been growing each year, to the extent that the foreign exchange it now generates has come close to the amount derived from coffee exports, the traditional basis of the Colombian economy.

Drug Trafficker 'Planned' Peasant Massacre

PA0805125988 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1625 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Bogota, 7 May (DPA)—General Miguel Maza Marquez, Administrative Department of Security (DAS) director, has confirmed that Colombian drug trafficker Fidel Castano, also known as "Rambo," planned the massacre of 36 peasants in April in La Mejor Esquina, Cordoba Department. The official also said nine men allegedly involved in the massacre were arrested yesterday in Medellin and remain in detention under strict security measures.

The press reported several days ago that Castano had arranged the massacre, but this had not been officially confirmed.

The 48-year-old Castano is described as an eccentric criminal "set on exterminating anything leftist" ever since his father died of a heart attack while held hostage by guerrillas.

On several occasions, leftist spokesmen have accused "Rambo" of leading several paramilitary groups, among them the National Socialist Workers and Students Movement [Movimiento Obrero Estudiantil Nacional Socialista], which has claimed responsibility for murdering dozens of trade union leaders.

Maza Marquez said the men arrested ranged between 22 and 27 years of age and had been involved in several other crimes against leaders of the leftist Patriotic Union (UP).

On Easter Saturday, 36 peasants were murdered in northern Colombia's Cordoba Department while celebrating Easter.

Police Dismantle 12 Cocaine-Processing Labs

PA0605164388 Paris AFP in Spanish 2322 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 5 May (AFP)—Today the police headquarters reported that 12 laboratories used by the Colombian drug trafficking mafia to process cocaine paste were dismantled in the past few days in the guerrilla-infested middle Magdalena area.

The equipment was skillfully set up in 12 cattle-raising and agricultural farms in heavily forested areas.

The police told AFP that following the seizure of nearly 5 tons of alkaloid during several raids on the so-called Medellin Cartel last week, more equipment was discovered in Sonson and Puerto Triunfo in the past few hours. An undetermined amount of cocaine was seized.

Police in the northwestern Antioquia Department last night discovered and destroyed four laboratories in Puerto Triunfo jurisdiction capable of processing more than 3 tons of cocaine daily. Pablo Escobar Gaviria, head of the Medellin Cartel, owns a farm in this area, and he is apparently one of the most affected by the police raids.

Hundreds of canisters containing chemical substances such as ether and acetone, which are essential for refining cocaine leaves, were also seized.

Ecuador

Rodrigo Borja Wins Presidential Election

Polls Open

PA0805173288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 May 88

[Excerpt] Quito, 8 May (EFE)—The polls opened here this morning for Ecuador's presidential election. Rodrigo Borja, the Democratic Left Party's candidate, voted at 1010 (1510 GMT) while his followers cheered him on.

In a polling booth in the La Floresta neighborhood (north of Quito), Borja cast his ballot as people hugged him and cheered "Borja for president." In brief statements to journalists who had been waiting for him, Borja said he was grateful to the Ecuadoran people "because they had voted for peace, patriotism, and national unity, which I represent."

Borja also reported some irregularities carried out by his opponent Abdala Bucaram's Ecuadoran Roldosist Party in the presidential race.

"They have forged documents trying to appoint some of their party members as polling station officials in Quito. They also stuffed 60 votes for Bucaram in a ballot box in Ambato (city in the mountain region), but in general the elections have proceeded normally," Borja said. [passage omitted]

Elections Held Normally

PA0805230588 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2154 GMT 8 May 88

[Excerpts] In public statements made today, Government and Justice Minister Heinz Moeller said that the number of those not participating in the elections or turning in blank or otherwise void ballots could be approximately 50 percent. Moeller added that after the polling places closed, there could be disturbances if some of the rival parties tried to force the results to go in their favor. He noted, however, that the police deployment prepared by the Armed Forces and the national police would immediately prevent that from happening.

We might add that Moeller and other politicians, such as Congress President Jorge Zavala, Social Democrat, in statements made today dismissed the possibility of a coup d'etat, which was rumored until the last moment.

The Armed Forces have guaranteed that total normalcy will prevail in the elections being held in Ecuador, as we near the end of the voting process, with only 6 minutes left for the polls to close. This was stated by Defense Minister General Medardo Salazar. He said that he had reports from all parts of the country indicating that there was complete normalcy. The Armed Forces have said that they will guarantee respect for the results of the elections, whoever wins, the minister stated.

The contenders in the race are Rodrigo Borja, Social Democrat of the Democratic Left; and Abdala Bucaram of the Ecuadoran Roldosist Party, PRE, who are contending for the votes cast by more than 4.5 million Ecuadoreans eligible to vote. [passage omitted]

We must report that today the special traffic police advised citizens that it was engaging in a police operation to contribute to maintaining the normal flow of traffic and security in and around the areas where the polling places were located for today's runoff elections to elect the president. [passage omitted]

Results Announced

PA0905044988 Quito Radio Quito Spanish 0345 GMT 8 May 88

[All figures as heard]

[Text] The following is a breakdown of the total votes cast for the president and vice president of the Republic:

First place, Rodrigo Borja Cevallos and running mate Luis Parodi Valverde: 1,601,195 votes, 47.31 percent.

Abdala Bucaram and Hugo Caicedo: 1,364,389 votes, 40.32 percent.

Blank votes: 40,333, 0.19 percent.

Null votes: 370,933, 11.16 percent.

Total votes counted: 3,383,850.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a new president of the Republic of Ecuador, Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos.

Bucaram Concedes

PA0905024688 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0104 GMT 9 May 88

[Excerpt] In Guayaquil, presidential candidate Abdala Bucaram admitted his defeat in today's elections and said that his contender, Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, is the new Ecuadoran president. He made the statement on television. These were his statements:

[Begin recording] [Bucaram] I think that Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos has won the presidential elections in Ecuador and that the most important thing for Ecuador now is that all Ecuadoreans, the victors and the vanquished, defend that victory, knowing that the next president of the Republic will consolidate democracy. The best of dictatorships will always be worse than the worst democracy. Democracy is congruent with mankind, with his principles of liberty, his principles of freedom, his principles of economic development, his principles of social justice. And I am a man who has played in 1,000 sports events, and I have had many political battles, and in this sense, I am proud of the formidable number of votes I have obtained. There was not the big margin that was expected. It was a close margin. And whoever wins a presidential election, be it by one or one-half vote, wins the presidential elections. Dr Borja has garnered a wide enough margin to be proclaimed president of the Republic tonight.

He should know that all political trends of this country, we of the center left, those of the center, of the right, have to defend that electoral process. We have to defend that democratic triumph and accept definitively that the president of the Republic has been elected legally and that he is a man who made efforts and engaged in the struggle, garnering important votes. This helps us, because we believe we are a sufficiently mature party, we are a party that has grown, and this, for us, will always be a reason for satisfaction.

[Reporter] Do you congratulate your adversary who won?

[Bucaram] Definitely; not only do I congratulate Dr Borja, but, after all the political battles we have been engaged in, I want to say that I hope he will be able to fulfill all the promises he made to the Ecuadoran people. I want to tell him that Abdala Bucaram will always be at the forefront and that the popular government in 1988 will find the Roldosist Party supporting this popular government. If the new government does not fulfill the promises made to the Ecuadoran people, you will find that Abdala Bucaram will be at the battlefront facing whatever has to be faced.

In any event, the important thing from today, 8 May, until 10 August is that we must consolidate democracy. Let nobody feel hurt by a defeat, and let nobody feel privileged by a triumph. Who has triumphed in this country is neither Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos nor Dr Abdala Bucaram. The Ecuadoran people and Ecuadoran democracy have triumphed.

[Reporter] From what you say we can envisage that the PRE, in principle, through seats obtained in the Congress and the vast representation it has in Guayas Province, will not offer unrestricted opposition but reasonable criticism and, up to a certain point, will assume a standby position, waiting for the next Democratic Left government.

[Bucaram] Of course, whoever wages a radical opposition, without having fairly judged the government, would have to be an unpatriotic, bad Ecuadorean.

[Reporter] Will there be a waiting period?

[Bucaram] We will wait and see how Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos develops to know what attitude we will assume.

[Reporter] Will this imply leadership of the opposition bloc in the Congress?

[Bucaram] Well, if there is an unpopular government that does not meet promises made, undoubtedly we will be in the parliament defending the Ecuadoran people and not just an opposition stance. We are not men who pose opposition just for the sake of opposition itself. We have demonstrated our concepts in parliament, and we have fulfilled out commitment with the progressive bloc.

[Reporter] Thank you for your statement. Certainly in Guayas Province there will be more calm, because there was speculation about a confrontation of powers. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Borja News Conference

PA0905044588 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0201 GMT 9 May 88

[News conference held by President-elect Rodrigo Borja and Vice President-elect Luis Parodi with unidentified reporters in Quito—live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] We have with us the triumphant candidate in the 8 May 1988 elections, Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos. We are experiencing the highest point of a political career. No Ecuadorean, regardless of his doctrinal or ideological position or the position he [words indistinct] during these elections, can fail to acknowledge [words indistinct] this high point comes after the race that called for a great deal of effort, sacrifice, and work. This victory began with the formation of a party that has reached its highest point by winning the Presidency and also a congressional majority. Good evening, Doctor, congratulations. What are your first words?—whatever comes to your mind.

[Borja] The ones that always come first are the ones from the heart. In other words, gratitude. Gratitude to a people who have been so noble and generous to me, who were with me during so many years of hard work.

[Reporter] Was there anguish during these past few days? Any uncertainty?

[Borja] No. Politics have always been uncertain. Politics consist of daily, continuous uncertainty, anxiety, tension, the alternation of pleasure and displeasure, of elation and depression, victory and defeat—that is politics. It is a laborious, enterprising, difficult path that has many sacrifices and moments of deep sadness and depression, but it also has moments such as this. I just toured the streets of Quito and saw thousands of vehicles with flags driving through the city and groups of citizens on street corners with flags, happily singing the national anthem, the anthem of Ecuadoran unity. I would like the anthem to represent the great ideal, great leadership. I believe this is the most important message of the hour.

Ecuador is evidently experiencing an unprecedented economic and social crisis. This crisis must be overcome, but in the history of humanity there is no case of a country overcoming a crisis of this kind without great efforts and sacrifices. [passage omitted] The Ecuadoran people have great possibilities; they are a capable, hard-working people. They are a people who, despite difficulties, have never given up hope. In other words, they have received blows and disappointments, but have not admitted defeat. They are still standing. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] What factors contributed to this victory, by way of comparison?

[Borja] First, the people's will, because they are the ones who decide. We make the statements, we organize the party; the party is very large, but, ultimately, the main factor is the party's position and its candidate. In my case, my victory is also due to the allied parties, to whom I duly and cordially express gratitude for their support, solidarity, and the very loyal friendship they offered me. We make this proposal to the country; we propose this: peace, national unity, the creation of jobs; we propose the rehabilitation of the economy from the ground up. All in all, [we promise to fulfill] all of the proposals made during the electoral campaign. However, there is a supreme judge of a democracy, and that supreme judge is the people. My victory, the point to which I have reached, I owe to the people.

[Reporter] Doctor, it has been said during the past few years that to win the presidential elections it is necessary to win in Guayaquil, which did not happen this time. Do you believe the myth has been broken?

[Borja] I do not believe this is a myth. Guayaquil is the largest city in the country; it is the Ecuadoran city with the most problems; it is a very important city. It is a fact that to win the elections it is necessary to have some measure of support in Guayaquil, not necessarily to win, but to garner some degree of support, such as I had during this electoral campaign. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] [Passage omitted] We would like the two winners to exchange greetings tonight. Parodi, I would like to hear your first greeting to Rodrigo Borja Cevallos.

[Parodi] Ecuadoreans, I will ask Rodrigo Borja for only a few minutes before I publicly congratulate him to first congratulate the Ecuadoreans who have had the prudence to elect this man as president. I believe that no one is more deserving than Rodrigo Borja of this huge responsibility we Ecuadoreans are giving him. I believe that almost 1.7 million souls in this country have made the right decision by making him the one who, for the next 4 years, will lead our fatherland. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] I believe it is obligatory for Rodrigo Borja to answer the statements made by Engineer Parodi.

[Borja] Luis Parodi is an extraordinarily noble man. [passage omitted] I believe Ecuador's economic planning could not be in better hands. [passage omitted].

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] In recent times we have found, very unfortunately, that there have been considerable differences between the president and vice president. Do you feel there is any danger of this between yourself and Parodi?

[Borja] Absolutely not, absolutely not. We may occasionally have differences over something, but, between gentlemen, such differences of opinion would never reach the point of conflict and much less a political, public conflict. I am sure that we will work in total harmony. He is a man of extraordinary capabilities, a man of a crystalline, transparent conscience. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] One of your proposals is [words indistinct] a great social effort. How will you do this? How will you open a dialogue with the different sectors [words indistinct]?

[Borja] My first mission is peace. I believe that [words indistinct] is the worst thing that could happen to us. To the north, we have the example of Colombia, an intelligent people who have had extraordinary leaders throughout the years, a people who have strongly faced an unrelenting wave of violence. To the south, in Peru, there is also a regrettable wave of violence. Ecuador is a miraculous island where we can still walk around without looking behind ourselves, where we can still send our children to school with the certainty that they will return. Many Latin American countries cannot say the same.

First of all, we must maintain peace, and, in peace, work. With work we will have [words indistinct] the unification of criteria, and agreement between workers, management, and government, so that we can work together, reach lasting and fruitful agreements for the country,

because we cannot afford to destroy each other—as I said the other day—like cannibals, because we would destroy each other and the country, and we have no right to do this. The country belongs to new generations, not only to us. If we want to maintain our country, we must reach basic and fundamental agreements among all the vital forces in Ecuador to rescue the country from the crisis it is facing. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Can we conclude then that the extremist conflicts will come to an end?

[Borja] I have been a very tenacious and sometimes harsh opponent. However, nobody can accuse me of having been unethical in this political struggle. I have engaged in three electoral battles, and the third one was decisive. I have been struggling for many years. I have never committed an ignoble act in the political struggle. I have never published a pamphlet or document that did not bear my signature. I said everything that I wanted to say out in the open. That is my style, and that will be my style in the future government. I will never resort to slander or lies, which are another form of dishonesty.

This does not mean that I will reconcile with Engineer Febres-Cordero. Our differences are great and irrevocable. This does not, however, preclude our getting information from the former government to complete our government platform, to integrate it, to plan it, and to begin to give shape to specific programs. If we have to go to a ministry, if people of our administration have to go to a ministry to get information, they will go, because we do not harbor any grudges when it comes to the interests of our people and the country. [applause]

[Reporter] Dr Borja, the Democratic Left waged a parsimonious political campaign. A newsman described it as the whale party, large but slow. Is that a strategic move, will it persist, or in reality is there a slow reactionary trend in the party? Second, don't you fear that this style may characterize the government and that it might face delicate problems at this moment when decisions and timeliness are so important?

[Borja] The person who said that is an old friend of mine, and one of the country's most talented journalists. [passage omitted] We have never been bothered by being compared to a whale or being termed the whale party, because we want to move in Ecuadoran politics with the agility, the size, and the bulk of a whale. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Good evening, Dr Borja. Congratulations on your victory. We would like to raise something that Eng Luis Parodi mentioned as he concluded his nationwide campaign. He said that Dr Rodrigo Borja represented an ideological, pragmatic equilibrium, that is, a middle-of-the-road position, removed from extremes. He also said that the Democratic Left represented an authentic, democratic socialism. In this context, Dr Borja, how do you view private enterprise and the change promoted by your candidacy during the campaign in which you proclaimed absolute respect for private property and enterprise?

[Borja] I reiterate that nobody has to get nervous about this government. They should not be tormented by ghosts, and they should not cause any financial panic in the country. There is no reason for this. I reiterate that we do not have any plans to make properties state-owned. This is for the simple reason that we believe that state ownership is not sufficiently effective. It has not been effective in the countries that experimented with that system, and it cannot be effective among us, who have a relatively backward administration [as heard].

Therefore, we have no plans to make enterprises state-owned or to make state-run enterprises privately owned. What we want is to make the enterprises effective. Also, we want to respect the role of private enterprise in the country's development. Private enterprise must not distrust us. We have to understand one another; we must join efforts to push the country forward. If the country is prosperous, that prosperity will spread to private enterprise.

[Reporter] That would be the beginning of [words indistinct].

[Borja] The Ecuadoran people are improving their standard of living. If we did not have 13 or 14 percent unemployed, if those people had jobs, for instance, and if private enterprise could have a larger public to whom it could sell what it produces, what it manufactures, and market it... [changes thought] The unemployed person does not have money in his pocket, he cannot buy, and this reduces the market economy and the possibilities of private enterprise.

My proposal directly benefits private enterprise. When I say that I want to improve the lot of the poor, I am indirectly opening prospects of prosperity for private enterprise. If the poor could have money and jobs and better salaries, if we defend the person's buying power, then they can buy more things manufactured and marketed by private enterprise. Therefore, things are coherent and are interrelated. Also, if I say that I want to defend the poor, it should be borne in mind that I do not want to dismantle private enterprise. Businesses have to help me create the jobs I have offered the Ecuadoran people. The enterprises must be prosperous, they have to invest, they have to grow, to expand. Only in this way will they absorb new employees, new workers, more manpower.

The reason I am in politics is to be able to help the poor. [passage omitted] I will not be able to help the poor if private enterprise distrusts my government and begins to dismantle its offices or to decrease investments. Therefore, a complementary unity is called for in which social, political, and economic aspects are intermingled. Therefore, we need the participation of all sectors. I have talked frankly to labor leaders. I have good friends there and

thank them for the support given to me by the labor sectors and the nation's workers. I have to talk to them with total frankness. They understand that we are experiencing a moment of crisis and that that crisis calls for us to talk and to reach an understanding. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Dr Rodrigo Borja, congratulations. I should add that I have known Dr Rodrigo Borja since the very beginning when he was on the verge of forming a social democratic party. We were on the same path. [passage omitted] I ask the president-elect if these elections mark the triumph of a social democratic ideology over an emotional one, a radical change in the national political scene.

[Borja] It is a very interesting question. I have maintained that populism does not resolve any country's problems. Populism is exploitation of the frustrations of a group. It offers heaven on earth right around the corner. It offers miracles to save the nation. However, when a populist comes to power, he realizes that things are not so easy, and, very soon, the very wave of insubordination and demands that he generated during his electoral campaign later ousts him from power. There are many examples in Latin America and in Ecuador of this populist phenomenon. [Words indistinct] be populist and offer marvelous things, and then fail to deliver them, because they cannot be done. I prefer to tell the truth, without even considering whether the truth is useful to me electorally. [passage omitted]

I believe in economic planning. I believe that things should be achieved through programs. I advocate social change. I must state clearly that I do not support the unjust organization that exists in Ecuador, because many people are subject to injustice, neglect, and even exploitation. I do not agree with this organization. However, I believe we should change it in a programmed, gradual, and peaceful manner, that Ecuador should evolve, reform, and achieve new goals of social justice for the benefit of the poor, without violence, without resorting to weapons, without an armed revolution. I prefer programmed, peaceful, progressive change.

[Reporter] [Passage omitted] Is ideology taken to extremes also dangerous?

[Borja] It becomes dogmatism. All ideologies must (?evolve). An ideology cannot become an immovable truth, because the history of mankind is the history of truths that turned out not to be true with time. They were inaccurate. Therefore, at times people question a truth that has been accepted in society as the official, established truth. An opinion that dissents from the established truth has to be respected, because that opinion could very likely be the truth tomorrow. Very often, such opinions are the truths of the future. In other words—it is difficult to explain—there are no absolute truths. Nothing is established once and for all. The world is in constant, effervescent movement. [passage omitted]

Despite all the significance that I attribute to political doctrines, those doctrines are also changeable. Some of their tenets die, parts of them become obsolete and are left by the wayside, and new ideas enrich those ideologies, bringing them up to date with the new problems, especially today when science and technology change the world more in 10 years than it had changed in 10 centuries in the past. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Thank you. We would like to ask Engineer Parodi a very simple question. How do you plan to carry out your functions to help Dr Rodrigo Borja run the country?

[Parodi] That is not a simple question; on the contrary, I believe that it is a very difficult question. As all Ecuadoreans know, because we are experiencing it and because most of us are suffering, the country is in a state of profound crisis that is not only economic, but is also social and even moral. Of course, I have pledged to cooperate in every possible way so that, through a plan that is the product of logical order, we can work tirelessly to make it possible for Rodrigo Borja's Democratic Left government to resolve the problems burdening all Ecuadoreans.

As Rodrigo Borja said a few minutes ago, what we have told the country—he, more often than I—is that we want to govern in a straightforward manner, facing up to the 10 million Ecuadoreans. We will not turn our backs on anyone. We will consider the people's problems to be our problems. [passage omitted] From within the CONADE [National Development Council], therefore, I will plan the country's socioeconomic development in the best way possible, assisted by our country's most intelligent people. [passage omitted]

[Borja] I would not be at peace with my conscience if I failed to thank the Ecuadoran people for the trust that they have placed in me in this electoral contest. I wish to thank the leaders of my party, the Democratic Left—the national, provincial, rural, parish, and neighborhood leaders—the peasants, the women's groups, the groups of workers, the fishermen, farmers, small businessmen, street peddlers, small farmers, small industrialists, all the vital forces that supported us, the workers of all the cities who have given me an extraordinary victory. [passage omitted] In other words, what I want to say, which comes not from my head but from my heart, can be summed up in these words: Thank you, Ecuador.

Peru

Garcia on Possible Cabinet Reshuffle

PY090334 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0220 GMT 9 May 88

[Interview with President Alan Garcia by unidentified reporters outside government palace in Lima; date not specified; monitored in progress—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Garcia]...not only change the methods to solve the problems, but also change the people, whenever it proves necessary.

Regarding terrorism, I believe it is indispensable to use more energy and severity to prevent terrorists from using democratic freedoms to become stronger and thus mock our democratic spirit.

Interpreting the will of the people, and after consulting members of my party, I reached the conclusion that some changes must be made, but without harming the political images of my ministers. The changes must be made, but giving special emphasis to the virtues of my fellow party member Guillermo Larco, who deserves my greatest respect for his integrity in the face of difficulties and for his great loyalty toward his work.

[Reporter] Have you had any meeting with Minister Larco Cox? What is his position regarding the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle?

[Garcia] Guillermo Larco is a great APRA member and understands very well the political situation and his party's needs. Through his telephone call today, I learned the ministers held an informal meeting this morning. I do not know exactly where. During the meeting they discussed the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle, and decided to submit this decision to my consideration. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Should we then conclude, Mr President, that the ministers have already tendered their resignations? In that case, have you already chosen other ministers to replace them?

[Garcia] When this really happens, when the ministers really tender their resignations, I will let the people know about it. For the time being, however, I am convinced that some changes must be made, that some aspects of our economy must be strengthened in order to deserve the confidence of the people. [passage omitted]

The increases and decreases in the price of the dollar at the Ocona parallel market [where street money changers sell foreign currency in Lima] are of great concern to us because they reveal the uncertainty being experienced by the people. These increases and decreases in the price of the dollar do not create economic concern, because we have already announced that we want to keep the dollar rate stable to maintain our level of exports and to prevent the price of the essential imports from going up. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Do you believe, Mr President, that by replacing officials in the Economy Ministry you would put an end to the uncertainty?

[Garcia] I do not believe this uncertainty is caused by a single person. It is generated by a number of factors, and is the result of alarmism. [passage omitted]

Nonetheless, we cannot ignore one of the most important and serious aspects of Peruvian politics and of Peruvian life. Under the excuse of having a so-called good understanding of what real democratic rights are, we cannot allow the terrorists to take advantage of us. Here we have to play all our cards.

[Reporter] Does that include the possibility of declaring a state of siege?

[Garcia] Anything that may prove necessary, as long as it is constitutional, legal. If the democratic government does not use all constitutional instruments at its disposal, it will soon be destroyed. I want to tell Peru, as I will explain better later on, that we have only two possibilities: to use all the constitutional and democratic instruments right now, or to allow Peru to be left without a constitution. If this happens, we will become barbarians, without the right to think. [passage omitted]

We are forgetting that we are in a state of war, in a state of confrontation with assassins and terrorists, and that we are giving them freedoms and facilities that will enable them to mock our democratic spirit. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Are you ready to pay the political price for your decisions, Mr President?

[Garcia] A president who is elected by the will of the people must be ready to pay the political price for his decisions. [passage omitted]

Garcia Addresses APRA Members on Anniversary

PY071909 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish
1300 GMT 7 May 88

[Speech by President Alan Garcia commemorating APRA's 64th anniversary at APRA Headquarters in Lima on 6 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow APRA members: I have heard that some fellow party members generously said that, for state reasons, I would not be able to share this moment here with you.

I want to begin this speech by saying that no reason of state or force majeure reason will ever prevent me from participating in the activities of my party. [applause]

Here I am and here will I always be—as the president of the Republic or as a mere party member—participating in the activities of my party. As an APRA member I am always ready to serve the cause of the revolution and Haya de la Torre's ideals.

One of the special reasons for my being here is that now some difficulties seem to be creating obstacles to prevent us from treading the path we have established for our country. Now, all the criticism of the opposition seems to be directed at us. Now, more than ever, I must be here to attend the commemoration of this 64th anniversary.

I must be here to tell you that the last thing that will ever happen to an APRA member is to be afraid, to lose his faith. Here we are. Here I am in my party's headquarters. No difficulty, no offense, no criticism will make me go back on my decisions because I have picked up your banner. [applause] [passage omitted]

We are now confronted with the new challenge that being in power and leading a government represents. The difficulties posed by this challenge are the same that we have overcome in the past, when we demonstrated our bold imagination to survive as part of a movement which, without enjoying the perquisites of power, had its mettle tested. If we survived the long period of clandestinity and struggle, now more than ever, in the face of difficulties, we will demonstrate the power of our convictions. We will maintain the substance of these convictions, recognizing, however, that as human beings we can err and be mistaken. Yet, we will maintain the essence of the transforming spirit and the revolutionary will that inspires us. So, here I am, friends, to tell you that, despite all the difficulties, the APRA people must be interested, not in immediate rewards, but in the ultimate destination of the path we have taken.

We have begun to move down a long and trying path that has yet to reach its destination. It is up to us to demonstrate now, once again, that we can overcome, not imprisonment and exile as in the past, but insults and misunderstanding. All this must serve us to preserve the pure spirit of our party; all this must serve us to screen out those who, not comprehending our historical cause, joined our march at a time when the going was rather easy. Those are the ones who are now afraid and harbour doubts, and eventually lose their faith. We can tell them at this moment of our 64th year of existence, which is not a sign of old age but a sign of robust maturity, that the APRA people are proud of their faith; that they can drop by the wayside because they have never understood what makes the heart of the APRA people beat. Let those who have never been revolutionaries doubt our anti-imperialism; let those who do not understand APRA's historical destiny be frightened by an inflation of paper. Our historical destiny is to rescue a continent for freedom, to affirm the historical personality of a people, and to dare to overcome the greatest obstacles and the largest concentration of economic power, thus to lay down the basis of equality. [applause]

So, friends, on this anniversary of our party's founding it is important to take a look and take stock of what our party signifies for the history of Peru and for the progress of Latin America. And looking back at our long past, we know that in the face of the current difficulties we are remaining faithful to our principles, and this is what really counts. A member of the APRA cannot be judged for his immediate achievements; he has to be judged for the meaning of his path, the firmness of his faith.

We are staying on the anti-imperialist line that follows from the Mexican revolution. We maintained our principles in our answer to domination and misery, when we proudly defended our position regarding the foreign debt. We are a bastion in the defense of Central America in the face of the imperialist aggression.

We will proudly and firmly tread this path which is marked by Haya de la Torre's old Sandinist principles. I confirm that we have acheived a goal which seemed impossible to reach. We have proved that Peru may find the path to its development through the redistribution of wealth without falling into the trap of foreign credit, which is nothing but a new trick that attempts to trap us more and more each day. It cannot be denied that, imbued with Haya de la Torre's ideas and teachings, we have fought imperialism at all fronts. Being, as I am, a follower of Haya de la Torre's ideals, I could not fearfully kneel before the imperialists. Just to obtain a doubtful credit we could not turn our backs on 60 long years of proud anti-imperialism. [passage omitted]

Since then, what was good and approved in the first 2 years has become a failure in the eyes of many of our critics. The people, despite the problems we experience today and which we recognize as problems, will never forget that the first 2 years of government have been a time of growth and economic development. There were some who believed that growth during the first 2 years was only intended for them; that Peru's productive invigoration was intended to accumulate wealth in a few hands. At that time, following the footsteps of Haya de la Torre, we were reasserting that we had to do away with monopolistic concentrations of money. Others, using their media and their analysts, began to sow doubt and to undermine faith.

I have said clearly that we were going to fight ideas with ideas, opinions with opinions. Let's take to the street and the plazas, I said then. The Peruvian people, particularly in the north, took to the streets and plazas to give a vigorous revolutionary lesson, defending our revolutionary experience. What is at stake here, APRA friends, is a unique anti-imperialist experience in Latin AmerrCa. I am here to tell you that any enterprise that forges ahead is fraught with negative views, contradictions, and paradoxes—this has been taught to us by the dialectic of Haya de la Torre. He taught us that a process has its own contradictions. And this is why as Peru started its rapid climb in production and employment, its economic structure required more and more dollars, dollars we did not have. At the appropriate time, we had to rethink our growth strategy. We had to say that the initial growth embracing everything and everyone had to be reoriented toward a selective growth in what we want and for the social sectors whose needs stimulate our efforts.

The initial economic growth brought with it new contradictions, new problems. It is up to the dialectic mentality of the APRA people to interpret those problems and to realize that 2 years of fast growth have imposed on the centralist, dollar-consuming structure of the country the need for more and more dollars. This has brought about situations in which APRA must take the initiative. This

is why we have taken measures to restrict the use of foreign reserves that have been earned by selling the products of our wealth, foreign reserves that must be exclusively earmarked for growth and satisfaction of essential needs. This, however, has a political cost: the daily clamor of those who have become accustomed to liberal spending of foreign exchange for whatever they wanted and whenever they wanted.

Our economy must be planned, directed, and oriented by the popular state, the state of the united front working for the country's transformation. This is what is not understood and why we are not forgiven. Only last year, sensing that their immense power was wrested from their hands, four groups initiated a belligerent campaign from which APRA emerged more united and stronger in its faith. Now, as we reassert the concept of growth oriented toward the most important, new criticism and old voices are being heard, voices sometimes steeped in rancor, hatred, and frustration. This time of testing should serve to prod our will and our faith.

That is why I come here to tell you, friends, that any economic growth, any anti-imperialist experience, any renewing purpose has its cost. In other countries, the cost of transformations, such as the transfer of 1 million hectares to communities in Puno, or the nationalization of banks that were the property of four economic groups, have cost million of lives. We wanted to prove, as Haya de la Torre wanted, that in securing one's bread, one need not sacrifice freedom. To prove our intelligence and our faith, we have fought and responded with strong arguments to those who from the right keep hurling insults at us for what we have done. We affirm and reaffirm our anti-imperialist line, the nationalist line that we inherited from Haya de la Torre. We will proceed with the construction of a popular state that recognizes the social groups that have in the past been forgotten. We have lived in the past to serve antinationalist groups so that they could grow fatter—essentially at the service of the urban and modern sectors of Peruvian society.

The great sin of the APRA government has been to open its arms to the peasant masses that were forgotten in the past; to that peasant mass that cannot parade through city streets, but which always welcomes us, enthusiastically and vigorously, when we visit their provinces; that peasant mass that has not yet been contaminated with other uses and culture; that peasant mass that still has feeling and can appreciate whenever they are dignified and treated as equals, whenever they in the name of justice are incorporated into the state with full democratic citizenship. [applause] I am here to tell you, friends, that men pass away, but loyalty remains; that men pass away, but faith remains; that men pass away, but the APRA movement will live on with the firmness and the conviction of its political line. [applause] [passage omitted]

There are indeed things to correct and change, and we have to learn this lesson every day. Some aspects of the course we have taken must be changed, but we must keep our sights on the essential goals of the APRA movement. We must listen to the nation, and we must listen to our adversaries when they talk without animosity or hatred. We must listen to those who, while not being APRA people, are still concerned about the country. We must pay attention to our companeros who in private dialogue tell us what our concerns should be, what new routes we should take, what profound changes must be made. On this road down which we are moving and learning, under the first government of our party, we must know when to rectify and what to change, and must not fall into the sin of conceit for which the country would pay and the people would suffer. We must be humble, and from the test of the congressional interpelations and questioning we must emerge with the unity and firmness with which the APRA people know how to defend their positions. Again, we must listen to others and be able to change what needs to be changed, yet maintain the revolutionary course.

There are many who say that, now that we have economic problems, the time has come to go back to an orthodox policy. I have heard people say that, now that our problems justify it, we must change some of our ways and surrender to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank. [shouts of "No"] Others have said the best way to come out of the crisis is to pay our foreign debt. [shouts of "No"] Others have said, in a fit of doubt and self-righteousness, that the best way to resolve the problems is to return the banks to their former owners. [shouts of "No"] So I came here to ask the APRA people if we should now retreat from our positions, [shouts of "No"] or if we should stand firm in our positions and forge ahead to demonstrate that this is an APRA revolutionary government. [lengthy applause] [passage omitted]

I have seen how four or five powerful people carry millions in small bags to buy dollars in the streets, to push the price of the dollar up. I do not know whether they do that out of fear, or just to harm the country and government. Some sensationalist press headlines have announced that the dollar price has reached 235 (?intis). The price of the dollar is only 170. All this sensationalism is part of the carnival staged by the skeptics. It is the fear of the faithless, of the nervous. This is what they want to make the country believe. Our democracy can be its own worst enemy if some people misuse the freedoms democracy grants them. [passage omitted]

If we are not going to retreat, let us then move forward. If we are not going to retreat, let us move forward and confirm the victory of our party in the next elections. [lengthy applause]

On the celebration of this anniversary of the Latin American revolution, let us hold high our hopes and unfurl the banner of our faith, and let us recall our founding leader. Let us make our hearts an instrument of history, and let us make our words become convincing arguments. [passage omitted]

Remember, companeros, we have always said the more the criticism, the livelier the APRA spirit. We must now say the more the problems and difficulties, the more union, fraternity, and solidarity within our party. We must firmly fight for the unity of our party. May no one succeed in dividing our party. [passage omitted]

Our party can only be defeated if our unity is destroyed, if it is split by ambition. We have no ambitions—we have responsibilities, we have duties. An APRA member has no ambitions, no dreams for himself. The APRA member strengthens himself in what he is. He seeks the support of the people, the final victory of justice and liberty, and the full success of the most profound and authentic revolution of the people. [applause]

Long live the 7th of May! [cheers] Long live Haya de la Torre! [cheers] Long live APRA! [cheers] Long live Peru! [cheers, lengthy applause, songs]

Alleged Shining Path Actions Reported

APRA Leader Murdered

PY090132 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0118 GMT 8 May 88

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 7 May (EFE)—Police today reported that alleged members of the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas yesterday killed APRA leader Victor Alania in Huancasancos Province.

Alania, who was manager of the Ayacucho Department Development Corporation, was murdered near the Huancapi settlement.

Alania was traveling by station wagon to Huancasancos, capital of Huancasancos Province, to attend an APRA convention.

The station wagon was stopped by a group of Shining Path members, who forced the travelers to get out of the station wagon and then shot Alania to death.

The guerrillas blew up the station wagon with explosives, but did not harm Alania's companions.

Guards, Justice of Peace Killed

PY070325 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0134 GMT 7 May 88

[Text] Lima, 6 May (EFE)—An official communique reported today that six members of the Peruvian Civilian Guards and a justice of peace were murdered in the Andean Department of Puno by an armed group, presumably members of the Maoist Shining Path organization.

The Interior Ministry reported that these people were murdered on Thursday, 5 May, in the town of Crucero, more than 250 km north of Puno, capital of this department bordering Bolivia.

According to the official communique, the subversive group fled toward the jungle zone north of Puno.

The state enterprise PETROPERU today reported that the branch line of the northern oil pipeline, through which the oil from the jungle flows to the Pacific coast, was also the object of a terrorist attack.

This attack was carried out early yesterday morning in the district of Aramango, some 200 km north of Chachapoyas, capital of the Department of Amazonas.